

「著作権保護コンテンツ」

2

異世界 迷宮で

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を



Shouchi Seryano

蘇我捨恥

Illustration 四季童子

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Illustration: 四季童子

Isekai meikyuu de dorei harem wo

(異世界迷宮で奴隷ハーレムを)

Slave harem in the labyrinth of the other world

Shachi Sogano

(蘇我捨恥)

Story Description:

A man was about to commit suicide and decides to search for a way to die in the internet, but then he found an odd site that asked a lot of questions and had a point based system that allows you to create skills and abilities for a character. He took interest in it and when he finished setting his character he was asked "You will now be transported to a world with the settings you choose, coming back is not possible, do you still accept", Then without thinking much of it he pressed YES and he find himself in another world with the skills and abilities he choose to have.

Original Story can be found here: [Link](#)

Transation source can be found here: [Link](#)

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Chapter 29 : Double

*

“Well then, I look forward to serving you next time.”

I was seen off by the slave trader and left the trade company with Roxanne.

Roxanne is holding a big case with both hands.

That looks like all her belongings.

I glance at Roxanne frequently.

I should be able to look at her more confidently, but I'm strangely embarrassed.

Roxanne looks even more beautiful when seen under the sunlight.

Her white skin seems to shine.

The tunic is pretty loose, but, as expected, her chest is huge.

That's a considerable bulge.

Yes, I'm looking forward to it.

While thinking about it, can't I look at them brazenly?

“Is that not heavy?”

I point at the case and ask.

It feels uncomfortable seeing a woman carry luggage.

“Y-yes. It is fine”

“Let me see it for a bit”

“Y-yes. Here you are”

I stretch out my right hand to take it.

While confirming its weight, there's another thing I want to do.

I hold Durandal with my left hand and with my right hand I hold the case by the handle.

It was a good idea to take out Durandal, but I didn't have the opportunity to erase it at the trading company.

While confirming the weight, Durandal is concealed by the case.

I cast [Character Reset] and Durandal is erased.

“Certainly, it is not heavy.”

I say while presenting the case to Roxanne.

At first I was going to carry the case, but then changed my mind. On one hand as it should normally be a slave’s work to carry the luggage, I would look strange doing so. On the other, there’s the sword.

Since I’m carrying the case, if a situation arises, it would be hard to deal with it.

As Roxanne does not have a sword, I would have to deal with it.

I think that’s precisely where modern society has changed: from the notion of carrying a sword in downtown to that of a man carrying things like luggage.

Perhaps, violence in downtown in this world is considered possible.

By carrying Roxanne’s luggage, it may be seen as me valuing her.

However in reality, it will put Roxanne in danger.

I should be able to pull out the sword anytime.

The attendant has the luggage and the master has a sword.

It may be common sense in this world.

I return the case to Roxanne, open the [Item Box] and take out the scimitar.

When I was giving the handle, our fingers touch and my heart throbs.

They were white, slender and soft. They were a woman’s fingers.

Even if I say so, I don’t know what I’m feeling. I wonder what it is.

Are such things fine?

“F-for now let’s get lodging at Vale pavilion. Exit on the next street and straight to the roundabout. Follow me.”

“Y-yes. Certainly.”

I put the scimitar on my waist and start walking.

Roxanne follows me.

I am being accompanied behind me by a woman with luggage.

It is slightly uncomfortable.

From a little while ago, Roxanne also seemed to start being tense. [1]

“By the way, can you read Kanji?”

“Kanji is?”

When I ask, I look back. Roxanne tilts her head out of curiosity.

Her face is beautiful.

No, that’s not it. [2]

Yes. I found out immediately that kanji can’t be read.

It is because the word kanji was not converted to Brahim language.

Because there is no concept of kanji, kanji was not changed from a foreign language.

“Well....could you read the intelligence card?”

“Ye-yes”

“In what language is the intelligence card?”

“It is the Brahim language.....oh. Well... Intelligence cards work directly on the consciousness of the person who is reading. That person will see characters they can read.”

I see. I get it.

It’s not written in kanji, I just see characters that I can understand.

What does a person who can’t read see?

“I see. Can Roxanne read Brahim words?”

“Ye-yes. To a small degree”

I incidentally got a person capable of reading the Brahim language.

“Because I am hopeless at reading and writing Brahim language, I want you to teach me”

“Ye-yes. I will within my range of understanding”

“Thank you. Please take care of me.”

I go past the explorer guild.

Next time I will not need a reading proxy.

“Because you came in 10 days like promised, I have not learned much yet”

“Hmm? You studied at the trading company?”

“Yes. Being able to speak it is definitely an advantage, so I learned the Brahim language.”

So the slave dealer had such a service.

No, is it because being able to speak the Brahim language had a higher value?

I wouldn't say it is an arbitrary service.

“That is the Vale pavilion”

“Yes”

Because we have luggage, we pass through the city without stopping and head directly for the Inn.

Some men passing by are staring at Roxanne.

I feel a bit superior.

However, I wanted to tell them “Don't look at my Roxanne.”

Even I have not looked at her directly yet.

We enter Vale pavilion.

“Is it ok to transfer to a double room?”

I ask the innkeeper who was trying to prepare the key.

“Certainly.....double is good?”

“Yes. And add dinner for two”

“A double room is 380 Nars. With dinner, ermm... since you've stayed long term, with special service it is 350 Nars.”

Mysteriously the [30% Discount] works when a meal is attached and it becomes cheaper.

Won't he have any questions?

However because he said service, there seems to be some awareness of the discount.

“Understood. That is 350.”

Anyway, he sounded grateful, so I had to accept it.

From the pouch inside the rucksack, I pull out 3 silver coins and 50 copper coins and place them on the counter.

“Then both of you take out your arms.”

Come to think of it, is this an intelligence card check?

He will know Roxanne is a slave.

As it can't be helped, I extend my left hand.

“Roxanne, you too.”

“Ye-yes”

For some reason Roxanne took out her hand while looking befuddled.

“The double is on the 5th floor. I will guide you to take your luggage from the previous room and then to the new room.”

The Innkeeper didn't say anything in particular after seeing the intelligence card.

Does he not meddle in customer privacy?

He takes 2 keys and quickly climbs the stairs.

“Lend me your luggage”

I receive the case from Roxanne and follow after.

Inside the Inn, I don't need to give preference to the sword.

“Th-thank you”

Roxanne also follows.

We climb the stairs.

“First, please take all your belongings from the room”

Innkeeper unlocks room 311.

I pass the case to Roxanne and enter the room.

I carry the cloak in my left arm. Then I jam the rope, laundry and the remaining luggage into the wooden bucket. I take the jersey from the closet.

I also take out the leather shoes from the bottom closet shelf.

“That is all.”

“Then, let's go to 5th floor.”

The innkeeper locks 311 and leads the way.

“Errm, I can carry it for you.”

“No, it’s all right.”

I stop Roxanne who wanted to carry my luggage even though she’s already carrying her case. [1]

We climb the stairs.

3rd floor is no problem. However for the 5th floor, I want an elevator, but there is no such thing. [1]

“Double rooms are only on the 5th floor, and you are the only double room customer.”

The innkeeper seems to have read my dissatisfaction and explains. He doesn’t know the reason.

“Hmm.”

“This is the room.”

The man unlocks the room.

“I see.”

I enter it.

There was one big bed and on the inner side, a desk. Were there 2 chairs because it’s a double room?

I put the luggage on the desk.

The size of the room compared to room 311 has not changed much. It was bigger by a slight extent. Perhaps this was a large room? Did it feel more spacious because there is no closet?

“There is a closet on the right. The bottom shelf here is self-locking, so please don’t leave valuables outside”

Said the innkeeper and opens the sliding door wall to reveal an equipment closet.

The closet was larger than the one in 311.

Afterwards he repeats the same thing as when I first entered room 311, then hands me the key and leaves.

I sit on the only bed.

The softness is about the same as in the 3rd floor room.

I look around while Roxanne is standing near the entrance with nothing to do.

“Come in and sit on the chair”

“Ye-yes.....”

Roxanne goes past nervously.

More than being nervous, I’ve the impression that she’s a bit frightened.

“Well. Is this number 5?”

I show the key to Roxanne.

This room number is 517. Because I know 1, the number on the left side should be 5.

“Ye-yes, that is so.”

“And, this is 7?”

“Ye-yes.....”

Umm. The conversation does not continue.

Roxanne’s fright is visible.

Along the way I feel like we were able to have a little more conversation, but once we returned to the hotel, it finished.

Even if I plan to, I would not suddenly push her down in the daytime.

Well when there are only 2 people in a hotel room, it can’t be helped. Additionally there is only one bed.

“Errr Can I touch your ears?”

Anyhow, I try to ask that request.

If she’s gonna be frightened after all, I feel like I could behave more wildly.

Perhaps. Probably. Maybe.

“Ah.....ye-yes.”

“Then, come here.”

Roxanne is summoned.

Reluctantly. It is just skinship, skinship.

Skinship is important.

If she's frightened of being assaulted, I should convince her I'm not scary before I end up impatiently putting my hands on her.

Surely. Probably. Certainly.

I want to jump at the beauty in front of my eyes, but I endure it.

I am a rational person.

A person of reason is a saying in English, but I don't know.

Worldly desires disappearing. Break down delusions.

".....Yes."

"Here."

Roxanne who tried to sit on the floor is invited to sit beside me on bed.

I would not sit on the floor.

Because she was next to me, I wanted to embrace her spontaneously, but I endure.

Would that be why she did not come beside me?

Dispersing worldly desires. Extinguish passion.

I place my hand on Roxanne's head.

From her side, Roxanne is also beautiful.

Her hair smoothly glides through my hand.

It's soft and luxurious.

Indeed, it looked nice and similarly felt nice.

Do-don't, don't. I just want to push her down.

Of course, patience is the only way to endure it.

Worldly desires disappearing. Evil thoughts removed.

After enjoying touching her hair to satisfaction, I touch her dog ears.

The ears are large and soft while dangling powerlessly.

The thickness is 1 or 2 centimeters.

Because they're lop ears, they don't have hard parts? Somehow they feel puffed up. [3]

Fluffy and soft.

Not good. It's becoming a habit.

Yes. Why do I need to hold back? I touch them with both hands.

“Although Roxanne is a beauty, your ears are cute.”

Roxanne is a beauty yet does not give a cold impression. I think her lop ears are having a big effect.

Her big ears bring out a friendly feeling.

“Eh.....Th-thank you very much.”

I meet Roxanne's eyes.

Roxanne looks down embarrassed.

I have no choice but to do it soon.

I suppress such impolite thoughts.

Evil desires dispersing. Brutal heart, calm down.

I stroke her ear.

I innocently stroke her ear.

Worldly desires dispersing. Obsession crushed.

I pat her ears and Roxanne calms down a little.

But my worldly desires do not calm down.

I watch Roxanne's appearance from the side.

There is nothing to dislike.

Even if I don't like something, I want to put up with it.

Skinship is important.

After all, looking from the side, Roxanne's chest is big.

No, not that. Don't think about that.

I want to check, but endure it.

Worldly desires dispersing. Lust smashed.

“Well, once again, please take care of me.”

“Yes, please take care of me too.”

Roxanne lowers her head without minding me touching her ears.

I catch the back of the head that came up.

“These ears are pleasant.”

“That ...”

“What?”

“May I call you master?”

Yes.

I want someone to praise me for not throwing myself on Roxanne.

Worldly desires dispersing. Suppressing animal nature.

Is this the result of skinship? Our conversation had continued a little. If I throw myself at her, we will be back to the beginning of her being frightened.

“That’s right. You can call me so.”

“Yes. Master.”

Woops.

That was dangerous now.

I almost embraced her unconsciously.

Proper mind. Proper mind.

Worldly desires disappearing, sexual desires suppressed.

“Which reminds me, there is only one bed”

I spoke while touching her ears.

No, wait.

Is such a topic all right?

“Eh?”

“What?”

Just as expected, Roxanne asks again.

That seemed a little different? I wonder what?

“Well. It is master’s order.”

“Eh? Is that so?”

“Yes. You asked for a double room”

“Ah”

Indeed.

Double is one bed, so 2 beds is a Twin?

Certainly when he asked if a double was OK, I nodded.
That innkeeper, he did it on purpose.
Good job.

“You did not know?”

Is this why Roxanne was frightened once we come to the inn?
Well, even if I realized it now, we still have one bed.

“First, there is something I want to say.”

“Yes.”

“Roxanne, listen. I have come from an unbelievably far-away place.”

I straighten my back and tell Roxanne while touching her ears. Skinship is important. [1]

I didn't tell the truth, but if a lie is found out later it will be troublesome.
Therefore I only told a half-truth.

“When you say it is a far-away place, is it further than Kasshim?”

“I don't know where Kasshim is, but probably. Roxanne can think of it as further away.”

“Is that so.”

Roxanne ponders on something.

It is further than the place Roxanne thought of.

That is a good expression. [4]

“I was also in the countryside. Since I don't understand common sense of this place, Roxanne will have to teach me various things like common sense”

“Yes.”

“Even if I may know something like this or that, I'll be glad if you explain absolutely everything to me.”

Maybe double room and twin room was also common sense on earth.
Maybe I was deceived somehow.

“Later, as you may have heard, Roxanne will enter the Labyrinth with me. That is my intention.”

“Yes. I think I can be useful in battle. Please leave it to me”

When speaking about the Labyrinth, Roxanne looks honest to me. Those eyes shine mysteriously.

Notes:

[1] [ED Note: Merged lines for clarity]

[2] [TL Note: he's referring to his train of thought derailing]

[3] [ED Note: Think bunny ears that stay down)_)]

[4] [ED Note: Probably referring to her face.....creeper level: MAX]

Chapter 30 : Reaction

*

When I talked about entering the labyrinth, Roxanne's atmosphere changed.

It seems it was due to self-confidence.

It's somehow scary.

As a result of being stared at directly, I stop touching her ears.

Because we are going as a party, I'm grateful that she is confident in combat.

"May I put the clothes in the closet? They may crease."

Because her ears were let go, Roxanne stands up.

Hmmm. Oops, she escaped.

"Yes. Do so."

"Thank you."

Roxanne opens the case she brought from the trading company.

It contains the maid clothes.

Did she bring that?

The maid clothes were bought along with Roxanne.

Because I paid 2800 Nars which was just a fraction, the regular price should be 4000 Nars.

That by itself is a great price.

It was a good purchase.

If I had bought Roxanne independently, the [30% Discount] would not have worked.

I don't know whether the slave trader has [Calc] skill or not. Anyways when buying individual items by itself, the [30% Discount] probably does not work.

Did the sale price turn into 422,000 because the slave trader was selling Roxanne alone for 600,000 Nars and had added 4,000 Nars for the clothes?

The moral of the story is that one shouldn't be too greedy. [1]

Roxanne straightens out the creases and puts the maid clothes in the closet.

Her appearance from behind is also charming.

From behind, it looks like her trembling has stopped.

Yes. She was a good purchase.

In proportion to her chest, Roxanne has a slim figure.

Our height is about the same, but she's a size slimmer.

She really gives the impression of a woman.

"Eh? You were barefooted?"

While undressing Roxanne with my eyes once again, I realize that she was barefoot. [2]

"Yes, I am."

Roxanne replies as if it was a matter of fact.

Did she come barefoot from the trading company?

Maybe being barefoot is not particularly uncommon.

"Can I ask for your cloak?"

"Yes, certainly."

I stand up and give Roxanne my cloak from the table.

While she is putting the cloak in the closet, I pet her head.

It's not necessarily because her trembling has stopped.

It is to confirm. [3]

I just want to confirm how much she feels like letting me do.

I feel like she could have already easily escaped.

My suspicions that getting a slave as beautiful as Roxanne could be a swindle haven't completely been wiped out.

Roxanne obediently lets me stroke her head.

Looking at this behavior, should I conclude that she was already prepared to be sold as a slave?

I don't understand her mind. Even if she doesn't like it, it is not revealed

on her face.

I unintentionally embrace her.

No, that's not it. It's a misunderstanding.

It's not like my capacity to endure was only this much.

There is no intention to suddenly push her down.

“Regrettably however, I don't plan to let you get away.”

“Aa, Yes

Roxanne gives a quiet answer and relaxes her body.

There is no more concern for fraud.

Perhaps, even if I push her down at this moment, she would be ok with it.

Because I embrace her from the back, my arms are on her chest.

They.....are bigger than I thought. [4]

But at the moment, I must endure it. Besides, there are other things that we have to do first.

I almost didn't feel any guilt from buying a slave.

I don't understand. I might have felt something when buying a slave.

Well, there's no need to push myself to feel guilty.

“These leather shoes, ah, not that. These sandals, you can have.”

I stretch out my arms and release Roxanne.

My endurance won't last any longer.

“Is that all right?”

“Because we are entering the labyrinth, take the equipment item.”

Roxanne doesn't particularly dislike it as I crouch down and touch her foot.

Roxanne's feet are not much different from a human's.

They are not hairy even though she is from the Wolf Beast tribe.

However it is slightly small.

The length from her heel to toes was 2 or 3 sizes shorter.

“Thank you.”

“Only if they could be put on properly, but...”

“Yes. Ah, well. They are something like a magic accessory. They stretch and contract to fit the person who equips them. Therefore, it’s alright”

Roxanne explains from over my head.

I don’t know what she thought about me touching her body, but she didn’t show a behavior like that of dislike or of wanting to run away.

It’s a good feeling of touching her all over.

Her feet are small and lovely.

The top of her feet was silky smooth.

“I see.”

“This is the difference between normal clothes and equipment.”

Equipment seems like something very convenient.

If isn’t, then everything would need to be custom-made instead of one size fits all.

“Isn’t that common sense?”

“Yes. I think most people know it.”

“.....Errr. Because I lack common sense, please take care of me in the future.”

“Yes.”

That seems to be common sense in this world.

Well, it seems that way. After all, there are normal villagers wearing equipment.

The explanation is immediately useful.

And, I am thankful to Roxanne for giving me support when needed.

“There are one-handed swords and 2-handed swords. Which do you prefer?”

I stand up and ask Roxanne.

“A one-handed sword please.”

“Sure.”

I hand over a scimitar to Roxanne from the desk.

Giving her the sword might not be a good idea or maybe that might not

be the case.

From the attitude I've seen till now, I judge that it'll be fine to give it.

In a situation where Roxanne is a slave in appearance only and the slave trader had ulterior motives, I'd be giving weapons to an enemy. For example, having the freedom to kill me.

I should think carefully about whether or not to. If I think about it even if Roxanne does not have a sword to use, it would be hard for me to defend myself. Because we will sleep in the same bed.

Because we are going to the labyrinth, I will have to give her the sword eventually.

Now is the best timing to give her the sword.

Giving it early is a sign to show that I trust Roxanne that much.

If I'm going to be killed, it'll be after losing my virginity. I think I should at least wait till tomorrow to give her the sword, or that's what I feel like doing.

As a person.

"I haven't maintained it, but its condition does not seem to have worsened"

Roxanne is wholeheartedly checking the scimitar despite whether or not knowing my intentions.

She has a serious face.

"Err? Does it need maintenance?"

"Yes"

Um, well that's the case if she says so.

"Other equipments too?"

"Of course."

"Is that so?"

When I think about it, it is so.

I haven't done anything like maintenance.

“Master, from now on I will do the maintenance because one’s life depends on the equipment. Please value them more.

“...O-Of course”

Roxanne leans forward and lectures me.

I move back by reflex.

“I will leave it to you.”

Roxanne finishes putting the rest of the luggage that was left on the desk into the closet.

“Well, then come here, try putting on the sandals.”

Having the leather boots in hand, I tell Roxanne to sit on the bed.

I untie the string and remove the sandals to put on the leather boots.

It feels just like it looks. The leather boots is an equipment that is a rank higher than sandals.

Sandals leave a foot half bare so boots should have much greater defense power.

There were no monsters that aimed for the feet and I didn’t want to feel stuffy while I wore the sandals, but it’s safer if Roxanne doesn’t have any better equipment than her master.

“Yes.”

“Err. Here.”

I invite Roxanne who tries to sit on the floor again to sit on bed next to me and give her the sandals.

Roxanne sits next to me and puts on the sandals.

Sandals that should fit my feet somehow fit Roxanne’s small feet exactly. Magic is amazing.

“Today in the city, while the sun is still up, I want to buy any necessary things. Is there any other equipment that you need?”

“If possible, a wooden shield please.”

“Wooden shield. Anything else?”

“In regards to protection, give me the remains from master’s basic equipment upgrades. For me, handed down things are sufficient.”

We talk while I am touching Roxanne's ears next to me.
There is no more fear or tension from her like when we entered the room.
The results of skinship.
Skinship is great.

“Understood. What about necessary things other than equipment?”
“Oil for maintenance is needed. Do you have any oil?”
“No, I don't.”
“Then I would like a small olive oil bottle”

Olive oil?

“Understood.”
“Later I'll use a rag cloth. Is there any worn out underwear?”
“There isn't. Just that.”
“It is still new.”

Roxanne put away the laundry. Oops, my pumpkin pants that I bought 5 days ago have been seen.
Son-in-law can't hold on any longer.
Incidentally, I am wearing trunks at the moment.

“I don't mind using a towel. Any other necessary things besides that?”
“I would like a water canteen.”
“Water canteen? One moment.”

From the rucksack, I take out a small wooden bucket substituting for a cup.
I take out the medium sized wooden bucket that Roxanne put in the closet.
I take both and run to the toilet.

I return to the room with the small wooden bucket filled with water and give it to Roxanne.

“Thank you.”
“Drink it.”
“Yes, I will.”

Roxanne tastes it.

The water was made with [Water Wall].

It does not have a smell and it tastes like normal water. There might be something wrong with it, but there shouldn't be anything dangerous compared to the water from a river or well water. I've been drinking for several days and my stomach has not had any problems.

By the way, [Water Ball] had too much force for the bucket to receive.

"Is the water fine?"

"Well, sorry. I did not want water. I wanted a canteen to use in the labyrinth"

"Yeah, I understand. It's ok. You will understand sooner or later."

"Is that so?"

Roxanne who does not know about my magic is persuaded. Of course, we should have a flask rather than not have one. However water is rather heavy. When you think about that cost, the convenience of water canteen is rather small.

I sit down on the bed.

For some reason while I was not here, Roxanne had moved down to the floor.

No wonder.

She is being cautious of me pushing her down when sitting on the bed.

"Over here."

"Yes."

I beckon her to my side.

"It's ok. It's not like we'll do something lewd."

"W-Well, but it is master's bed."

"Roxanne will also sleep here."

I embrace her and whisper in a low voice. Like a terrible evil magistrate.

".....Well, if it's me receiving pity, I'll get in the bed, but I don't mind sleeping on the floor."

Roxanne looks down and mutters such a compromise.
There's no way I'd think of putting her to sleep on the floor.
What kind of evil magistrate am I?

"Do it right now!" said something screaming inside of me, but I restrain it.

Particularly, now there is no need. It should be fine to enjoy later slowly.

"That is common sense?"

"In the trading company, I heard there were masters like that too."

"I'm fine with it. It's cold and troublesome, so we'll sleep together in the bed."

"Ye-Yes. Thank you very much."

While embracing her, I stroke her hair.

She did not avoid or dislike it.

Because she accepted up to this point, now I really think it's a good thing she is mine.

"After buying another water bucket, is there anything else?"

"I have to hold luggage. That rucksack or something like that."

"Rucksack? Got it."

"That's all for me."

I am touching her hair while talking.

I touch her ears.

These lop ears are becoming a habit.

"In this city, you can only buy once every 5 days. So it's possible that we will not be able to buy anything at worst for 5 days. So think about it properly."

"Yes, it is fine."

"Shield, olive oil, towel, bucket, rucksack, armor, socks. What else to buy such as these things?"

I am counting while confirming. 7 items.

"Yes."

"For me, is there soap around here?"

It's fine. Soap translates fine into the Brahim language.

"Soap? Because soap is very expensive, things like the Koichi fruit bran are normally used, I think."

"Too expensive? Shampoo no, it's nothing. Koichi fruit it is."

"Yes."

Shampoo is not translated.

Well in a world where soap is said to be expensive, there wouldn't be things like shampoo, rinse, hair treatment or a conditioner.

"Is there something like a tooth brush?"

"Tufted toothpick right. I think a Shukure branch is sold somewhere in the city."

Tufted toothpick?

"Shield, Olive oil, towel, bucket, rucksack, armor, socks, Koichi fruit, Shukure branch, so 9 items? Need to memorize, so I don't forget"

"Yes."

"Then, let's go shopping."

I stand up with the rucksack.

I want to keep touching Roxanne forever, but I shouldn't.

Or rather, I should finish the errands quickly.

I take out the copper sword from item box and carry the rucksack on my back.

There is money in the rucksack.

"Certainly."

Roxanne stands up at once.

I entrust the key and leave the Inn.

First at the place like a general store I purchase a small wooden bucket, rucksack, small bottle of olive oil, Koichi fruit bran and Shukure branch.

Total sum of 103 Nars.

The Koichi fruit bran is inside something like a scent bag, probably to use it as it is.

2 Shukure branches are 1 Nar. So cheap.
I mean, really, it was just a cut branch of something.
It costs nothing.

I pack the stuff I bought in the rucksack and let Roxanne carry it.

At the next place resembling a cloths shop , I picked up 2 towels.
Roxanne already has hers to use, but purchasing extras are not a
problem, right?

“There are at least two pairs of socks. Pick the ones you like.”

“Is it ok for me to choose?”

“Go ahead.”

“But I don’t know your size.”

She didn’t understand.

“No. Roxanne, these socks are for you.”

“For me? Is that ok?”

“It’s fine.”

I nod. Roxanne with an earnest face starts choosing socks.
Because they are sandals, it’s fine to wear them barefoot, but since we’re
going into the labyrinth, it’s better if she wears something additional.
Couldn’t any socks be fine? Or I shouldn’t say it.
The socks I chose for myself are a bit too big.

“Are these fine?”

“Yes.”

“Thank you.”

Roxanne gives me the socks she chose.
I show them to the store clerk along with the towels and pay for them.

I put in the goods the rucksack on Roxanne’s back.
Finally we go to armor dealer shop.

In the armor shop, Roxanne’s facial expression has become even fiercer
compared to a little while ago.
So serious for 1 shield. Her expression has become otherworldly.
Well, that’s because she will entrust her life to it.

Wooden shield: shield

Skill: empty

However, if possible, I would like to choose one with an empty skill slot. How do I recommend it to her?

I would like to ask Roxanne about empty slots, but it's better not to do it in public.

I place three shields I have found with empty slots.

"These 3 are good items"

"Can you tell them apart?"

"Yea."

To Roxanne's words, I reply with a nod with an appearance of confidence.

All equipment are all one-size-fits-all. That's why they are all the same I think.

Roxanne starts comparing the 3 that I gave to her. Although a beauty, she gives off an intimidating feeling. W-with wrinkles between the eyebrows.

I moved away as Roxanne is scary. I went to the armor display.

"How much is leather armor?"

"It is 800 Nars."

I think it's somewhat expensive. It cost that much?

I think it would have been a good thing if I had not sold the equipment from the thieves who attacked the village. It can't be helped now.

At that time, I didn't have [Item Box].

"This leather jacket?"

"It is 1,000 Nars."

Buying back what I sold once feels like a loss. I take and carry the leather jacket and leather gloves with empty slots. I walk over to the headpiece area.

Because I got body, hands and leg equipment, only the headgear remains.

Leather Cap: Head equipment

Skill: empty

Another leather series. Maybe this leather cap is handy.

Appearance-wise, it has a feeling of something a bicycle racer would use as a helmet.

It feels like it won't completely fit on my head.

"Master, this wooden shield."

Roxanne, after choosing the wooden shield, brings it.

"Would it be better together with a leather cap?"

I place the leather cap on Roxanne's head and ask her.

Somehow it mysteriously fits. Magic is amazing.

"Of course."

The cap hides her dog ears completely.

Certainly, it would be necessary without saying it.

It would be terrible if something happened to those cute lop ears.

"Then, these. 5 in all"

I take another leather hat with skill slot and show it to the armor merchant.

"Thank you very much. As a special service, it'll be only 938 Nars."

I pay for them and put them in the item box.

Roxanne looks at me suspiciously for some reason.

I turn to the side so that the armor merchant could not hear and mumble some incomprehensible muttering plus [Item Box]. Instead it seems like Roxanne who was right beside me heard it.

Chanting a spell is troublesome and embarrassing, so I avoid doing it.

Should I do it properly?

"This is everything. Shall we return?"

"Yes."

Roxanne did not say anything in front of the armor merchant. Even if she thought it was odd, it seems she considered not to ask about it in public.

On the way back, I can see in her eyes that Roxanne wants to say something.

It might be troublesome.

In front of the hotel on way back, there was a clothes shop. The clothes shop displays expensive cloaks. Even if they were expensive, because they were necessary, they are not unaffordable.

“If it rains, it will be troublesome, so you should have a cloak. You can buy one that you like.”

I unintentionally change the subject. She will eventually find out. It shouldn't be a problem if Roxanne knows.

“Is it all right?”

“Yea.”

“Thank you.”

Roxanne joyfully bows her head.

Notes:

[1] [TL Note: the moral is about the trader being greedy by trying to push for more and getting bitten by the 30% discount skill]

[2] [ED note: I wonder why he hasn't unlocked the skill [Old Man Pervert]]

[3] [ED note: Insecure and perverted. What's next?]

[4] [ED note: O.O he finally made a move though it was unintentionally....]

Chapter 31 : Enjoyment

*

Long time ago, my mother took me to a boutique in Hiroo, Akasaka. I don't remember much about places from the past, but it was a luxurious shop in the 2nd or 3rd floor of a building.

I remember you could see the cars going past the expressway from that shop.

In a very clear day, you'd see the sparkling reflection of the sunlight on the cars.

Why was I watching the cars? That's because I had nothing to do. A boy following his mother for shopping would hardly find anything fun to do.

Probably, I didn't complain or make a fuss then.

My mother only took me once to that boutique. She learned her lesson from that single time. That I didn't enjoy going shopping.

I don't know what she expected from having me accompany her that day.

It couldn't be that she expected to have fun shopping after bringing a child.

I no longer hold any duty towards my dead mother. What should I have done back then? Should I have enjoyed going shopping with her?

Ever since that time, I learned women like shopping. And there was no chance to experience it first-hand until today.

Roxanne who was told to buy a cloak she liked joyfully browses the goods.

Every cloak in the store is being checked out.

I should say, literally, every single one is being checked!

Starting from the left, one by one the cloaks on the stand were taken out

and checked for fine details.

They were spread for review. She held them against her arms while thinking if it looks good or not; the collars, the hems, and every small detail was checked.

There were no exceptions.

Even that reddish brown one that at a glance was no good was spread out and examined.

Ah, she folds it.

As expected, it was no good after all.

That one, obviously the color was odd.

“Don’t check them one by one!”

It was one of many things I wanted to say, but of course I refrain from doing so.

The merchant attending the store didn’t say anything either.

He didn’t want to say anything awkward.

In Roxanne’s case, even if he asked “What are you looking for?”, she would have answered with “Show me everything”.

Oh, seems he’s saying something.

“I can recommend this one here.”

“...Hmm.”

The ship sank.

Seems, she wasn’t interested in the cloak the merchant showed.

Just now the merchant recommends one that is slightly pricy and remains unsold.

Well done, Roxanne.

For buying a cloak, let’s do it properly.

The merchant, dejected, moved to attend to another customer.

I told her to buy one she likes, but I’d have been happy if she picked and bought one already.

I just stare as Roxanne checks out every cloak.

I don’t remember nor am I aware of any blunders committed towards my mother, but I won’t repeat the same mistakes.

I watch over without uttering any complain.

She's beautiful and cute. Just by watching her, time flies.
And the result? She asks me "How's this one?" with the last cloak.

Umm. That question is taboo for someone like me without any fashion sense.

I desperately think of something suitable and let out an evasive "That one is good too".

I think it's because I was pleased with the one she showed me, there's no way to deny it.

That much I know.

Or rather, that much I didn't know.

After reviewing every single cloak in the shop, Roxanne narrows it down to two choices.

A cloak she held on her left arm since halfway into the selection and the last one chosen.

Both are a similar crimson color.

"Which one do you think is better?"

After thoroughly comparing both, Roxanne turns around.
The cloaks are hanging from both arms.

Probably, if she's asking me, Roxanne already has in mind an answer with a ratio of 6 to 4.

If I choose, we'll be done.

If I choose poorly, all efforts will come to nothing.
I understand that proposing the cheap one or such is stepping on a land mine

But, I think the cheap one is good.

The one hanging from her left arm, she's been holding it all this time.
She's keeping it because she likes it.

If that is a hint, then it is the correct answer.

Back then, because I was looking at the expressway, I didn't get the hint.

That's not the case today.

"This one has a comfortably chic and nice, graceful, calming shade"

With confidence, I recommend the one on her left arm.

The reason is appropriate.

What followed was clear.

Or rather, should I say relaxing shade?

I don't really know what I'm saying.

I say the words without being sweet, mean, or delicacy.

"Is that so? This one, the stitching looks good, but I think the color is a bit too heavy"

"U-Uh huh"

Oh no.

Seems, the color on the other one is better.

"But really, now that you mention it, it's got a good calming color. I understand. Is this one ok?"

"I see. Do you need anything else?"

Somehow she was in agreement.

I receive the cloak from Roxanne.

"No. Well, buying anything more is too much"

"Since we're here, why not buy something else?"

"But..."

"You don't need to be reserved. After all, today is a day to celebrate."

I whisper close to her face.

To celebrate the day I bought Roxanne.

More precisely, if I don't buy two items, the [30% discount] won't work!

"Errr... well then, is it ok if I buy underwear too?"

"It's ok."

"I see. Thank you."

With a nod, Roxanne starts choosing some garments.

They're the pumpkin pants I bought before.

They seem to have no distinction for men and women.

They don't have any sex appeal.

Although, it obviously does not have any sex appeal to a modern person.

Unlike the cloak, Roxanne chooses it without unfolding it.

There might be some embarrassment since it's underwear.

"Is only one ok?"

I ask Roxanne who chose relatively quickly without checking.

The case she brought from the Slave Trading company only had a maid uniform in it.

She really doesn't have any personal belongings.

"Eh. Ah, err, but"

"Go buy another piece. How much is it for the three?"

I said that in his absence, so I call for the salesperson.

"Th...thank you"

"Thank you. Three pieces, right, seems you really liked that cloak. That will be 2856 Nars."

We bought three items, including another set of pumpkin pants of the same color that Roxanne took.

After paying, Roxanne held to the cloak and put the underwear in the rucksack on her back.

"Shall we return to the inn?"

"Yes"

And the day was coming to an end.

We didn't buy much, but it took a very long time.

I should be prepared for the time it takes to do any shopping.

"Heya, welcome back."

We return to the Vale Pavilion Inn and pick up the key.

"First we'll return to our room and drop our luggage. After that, dinner. After finishing the meal, I want to request two hot waters and a lantern."

"Two hot waters and one lantern, isn't it? It'll be 35 Nars, ok?"

After paying the fee, we go up the stairs to the 5th floor to our room. Roxanne carefully put the cloak in the closet once we enter the room.

“Thank you very much.”

“It’s ok, it’s ok.”

For me, I’m glad I didn’t run away while in the middle of shopping. I approach Roxanne while she was putting down the rucksack and pet her head.

Yeah. She doesn’t seem to dislike it.

Until now, she hasn’t been frightened either.

“While there’s some sunlight, I’ll do some maintenance. Please bring out the equipment.”

Roxanne told me while I was petting her.

“We spent all day shopping. It’s all right.”

“That’s not good.”

Roxanne suddenly glares at me.

Such powerful eyes.

“Tha...that’s right. That’s to be expected”

Maintenance is so troublesome.

Roxanne takes out a little bottle of olive oil.

“E-errr...”

Roxanne turns around to face me, looking down with hesitation.

Suddenly again, the atmosphere returns to its original state.

“What?”

“Since you bought me some underwear, the ones I’m wearing, I want to use them as cloth scraps for maintenance.”

“Yes. That should be ok.”

“...Master, please go eat dinner first”

“Dinner first, but should I go or not?”

It’ll turn dark once we finish dinner.

Maintenance should come first before the meal.

The oil in the lantern will only last one hour.

If possible, I'd rather enjoy some tender love under the lamp light.

"But..."

"It's okay. Let's go down together to eat."

"Is it all right? I think the dining room in the inn is expensive. I can go alone to eat somewhere cheap."

Is she being reserved, or is it unpleasant for us to eat together?

"The dinner fee is already paid for. Are you displeased for us to eat together?"

"Displeased? Not at all!"

"Then, in that case..."

I put down the copper sword on the desk.

"...T-then, well, if you'll excuse me"

Roxanne suddenly starts to take off her trousers.

I was thinking about what she was doing. That's right.

Since Roxanne will do maintenance, she'll use her underwear for repairs.

If that's the case, she'll have to take her clothes off.

"Ah, sorry. Don't mind me."

I lightly waved my hand.

Actually I do mind! Mind my feelings.

I'll be able to watch a beautiful sight.

Because of the oversize tunic, I wasn't able to see much.

I was able to peek at her cute bottom, but the part I wanted to see the most...

It's not like I'm watching it from a front row seat.

Ah, A tail. The tail.

Once Roxanne turns away, I could see her tail clearly.

Fluffy fur, the same chestnut color as her hair.

As expected, she has a tail.

I'll get to touch it later.

Roxanne quickly finishes changing her clothes.
It really took just an instant.
I want to see it for longer, but there's no helping it. I can't complain.

Once Roxanne sits on the chair, her expression turns serious.
With an almost scary face, she starts servicing the equipment.
With a little oil dabbed onto a cloth, she polishes.

"If you maintain them like this, you'll keep them just like new."
"If you don't maintain them, will their performance drop?"
"If the user doesn't feel comfortable with it, they can't perform at their best."

I see. It's a problem of feeling.
It should be okay if I don't service Durandal today.

After the maintenance, we go down to the dinner room. We have our meal together.

Besides Roxanne sitting on the floor instead of both of us facing each other at a table for two, we finish the dinner without incident.

Just as we finished eating, the sun goes down.
Once we return to our room, the innkeeper brings the hot water, fire and lantern.

After the man put everything down, he leaves.

"Would you wash my back?"

Since the two of us were left alone, I start to get into action.
Calmly, yet boldly.
If I show embarrassment, Roxanne might get nervous too.

First, I undress.
I also throw off my trunks.
All humans were born into the world naked.
I place the lantern on the desk, and pull the tub to the center of the room.

"Yes, master."

With a towel, Roxanne wipes my naked back from behind me.
So far, I've been successful.

Before, I'd washed myself with a towel soaked with hot water.

"Can you use this?"

I take out the small bag of Koichi fruit I bought and show it to Roxanne. Because I turn around, my dangly thing said hi to Roxanne. [1]
No, there should be no problem. Probably.

"I don't think I've washed anyone's body."

Even though Roxanne must have seen it, there wasn't a big reaction from her.

It kinda felt lonely down there.

My son is also energetic.

When I went to the restroom before, it accidentally discharged.[2]

"Hmm, is that so?"

"We're almost done washing your body."

"About entering a... bathtub."

Okay, it got translated.

"Only if it's nobility or royalty"

It seems to be difficult.

As for me, I can use fire and water magic. I might be able to make a bath soon enough.

"How do you use this?"

"If you don't put it near water..."

I show her the Shukure branches next.[3]
There should be water to rinse your mouth.
That can be done tomorrow.

After drying, I put on my pumpkin pants.

"Then, Roxanne, you're next."

As calmly as possible, I casually tell her.
As if it is normal. It is just taking turns.

"...Y-yes."

“Yeah.”

Roxanne answers in a whisper.
The tunic hangs from her hand.

As expected, I didn't get to see. Facing the tub, I wring the towel.

“E-errr... I'm from the Wolf Beast tribe and I might be a bit hairy. I'm sorry.”

“Oh, really?”

Saying those words, Roxanne turns around.
Right as Roxanne is taking off her tunic.

In the dim light of the lantern, Roxanne's fantastic body is revealed.
In the space between her clothes and arms, there are those violent breasts.

Th-those are destructive.
They're real projectile weapons. It's foul play.

Spilling out from Roxanne's front were those ultimate weapons.
So big.
And they look so soft.
Here are the ultimate weapons that can make whoever looks at them happy.

“Actually, my back...”

Roxanne, hiding her chest from my sight, twists her back towards me.
There's no need to hide anything. That's a shame.

When I see Roxanne's back, her whole back is covered in hair...
What? It isn't hair, is it fur?

While holding the towel, I come closer. She had fur growing from her back.
Though the fur reaches to her lower back, it comes out from her torso.
It didn't extend from her hair.

Unlike the look of a woman with long hair hanging down her back,
from her neck down to her lower back, it's all covered in fur.

All the way down to her lower back. It was very short.

If I had to say, it resembles that kind of hairstyle.

Roxanne takes off her trousers and underwear.

Where the fur ends, her tail stretches out.

Even though her tail is covered in fur, her ass doesn't have any.

Her butt is smooth and looks delicious.

I caress the fur on Roxanne's back with my right hand which wasn't holding the towel.

The fur is graceful and soft. It reacts gently to my touch.

"It's soft and fluffy, I love it."

"T-thank you."

I wash the fur on her back with the towel.

Following her body lines; from top to bottom.

"Yea, no problems."

"E-errr. For master to wash me..."

"It's okay. It's faster this way."

Peering through her back, I can see a pair of huge mountains on her chest.

The holy summit, two sacred mountains.

For Roxanne who is wiping herself with the towel, it's impossible to cover herself all the time.

I want to worship.

No, they'll be worshipped.

Hail, Roxanne.

Viva, Roxanne.

It's not enough just to pay respect.

I must revere them.

As if embracing her from behind, I position my hands.

While ascertaining her prominence, I purify those sacred bulges.

"Ah..."

“What?”

“N-nothing...”

Roxanne, who looks like she wanted to say something, keeps quiet.

The Divine Mount Fujis bounce back in reaction.

It is wonderful.

Certainly they have a massive and heavy sensation. I carefully polish them.

There is no part overlooked. I gently wipe to purify the hills completely. Slowly, carefully and diligently.

So soft.

Even over the towel, I can feel their weight and they are satisfyingly bouncy.

So large.

So much volume they can't fit in my palms.

“The best!”

“...”

Obviously, I take plenty of time to wipe Roxanne. That's not a problem at all.

In any case, it's too magnificent.

So much so that anyone entering wouldn't want to come out.

I spend enough time wiping to clean her and finally release Roxanne.

“Uh, Can I wipe your tail too?”

“Yes. Ah, no, I can do it myself.”

“It's okay, let me.”

Instinctively I switch to the next thing to hide the fact that I took quite a lot of time.

I wipe Roxanne's tail.

Her tail is a big bundle of fur.

As if it didn't have a core and was just a lump of fur. It was like the tip of a brush. [4]

I can't get enough of the fluffy feeling of her dog ears. Also, all of the

bushy fur of her tail is just as good.

It gently gets coiled around my arm, yet I feel this silky smooth texture.

“T...thank you”

“Your tail, can you move it?”

“It’s difficult, if I don’t do it this way”

While saying that, Roxanne shakes her hips.

Her tail swings side to side.

No. She isn’t moving her tail. It’s clear that she’s moving her hips.

Roxanne sways her hips enthusiastically.

From my point of view, it is sexy.

Even without my point of view, is it still sexy?

I got to see something good.

“Hmmm. I see.”

“Also, when I’m happy, I unconsciously wag my tail.”

“Is that so? Then, I will be sure to make Roxanne’s tail move as much as possible.”

I whisper into Roxanne’s ears.

Even though I say ears, they aren’t like normal ears on each side of the head.

“Y-yes... Errr, please treat me well.”

Ah. She wagged her tail a bit.

After that, I wipe her lovely bum and her graceful feet.

These perks!

“Well then. Let’s do some experiment.”

“Experiment?”

“Yeah, crouch on the bed and put your head out this way”

I instruct Roxanne.

I test if I can wash her head like that.

I wanted to try it previously.

Since there’s no mirror, I couldn’t be sure, but I can guess my hair is all

oily and sticky now.

After all, I haven't washed my hair in more than ten days.

There's a limit to only using a wet towel.

It might be the common thing in this world, but it is still unpleasant anyways.

I lift the tub and put it on the chair.

The tub is a bit higher compared to the bed. It'll be difficult holding your head up.

"Is this all right?"

"Hold your head over the tub."

"Okay."

Roxanne holds her head over the tub.

I scoop hot water and pour it on Roxanne's head.

I massage and wash her hair with my bare fingers.

I repeat it many times pouring hot water.

I pour more hot water on her ears, and carefully wash them.

"Now then, lift your head."

After washing it all generally, I put a dry towel on her head.

I dry her head with some pressure on the towel.

With somewhat rough strokes, I wipe all the water.

"Thank you."

"Right. With the two of us, we can wash our hair"

"Shall I wash master's hair?"

"Yes, please."

I place the towel on Roxanne's shoulder and we change places.

"Should I change the tub?"

"No, that's okay. The other one, I'll use to wash our socks and clothes"

I put my head in the tub and had it washed.

My hair is massaged and washed by Roxanne's slender fingers.

It feels good.

Even though I was soaked with hot water, I feel refreshed.

I am being dried with the towel.

Once I open my eyes, I am welcomed by the paradise.

Roxanne, who was only wearing a pair of pumpkin pants, shows her front to me while drying my hair.

Both arms are stretched out over my head.

By doing so her breasts were, were, were totally defenseless.

“Then I’ll do the laundry.”

I don’t know if Roxanne realized my gaze, but she immediately moves away.

Too bad.

No.

Roxanne squats beside the tub half naked and is washing our socks.

While doing so, her breast shaking matched her movements.

Pa-Paradise!

“You won’t use Koichi fruit?”

“That’s used for cloaks and favorite outer garments. If used with those that need to be washed daily, they’ll wear out in no time.

“Is that so?”

I am told while lowering the tub from the chair.

I went to the trouble of buying it, but it’s pretty useless.

“This is somehow amazing!”

After the socks, my trunks are washed next and Roxanne is fixated with the elastic band.

She is pulling it with her hands and looks like she is having fun.

“You don’t have those here?”

“Never seen this kind of thing.”

“Really?”

It seems elastic bands are unusual.

Is tying the clothes with strings like the pumpkin pants the common thing?

Roxanne put the laundry in the closet to air out.
Is all the work finally done?

“Well, I’ll put my clothes on.”

Roxanne takes out her maid uniform.

“Ah, you don’t need to wear that.”

“Eh, but...”

“Did they tell you something at the slave market?”

“That you’d be delighted if I wore these.”

Did the slave trader teach something to Roxanne?
Surely I’d be delighted. I’d be delighted but...

“It’s okay if you don’t wear those.”

“Ok...”

Roxanne gives a little nod and puts back the maid uniform into the closet.

And, silently comes closer to the bed.

Once she comes close, I grab her hand and pull her into the bed.
I embrace Roxanne who falls into the bed.

She remains still like that.

While holding her with both hands, those huge bulges are squeezed between our chests.

When I bring her face closer, Roxanne closes her eyes as if she was ready.
I kiss her lips.

Touching those soft lips.

For a while, I keep my mouth pressed against hers.

I want to be more forceful, but I control myself.

I hear it’s not good if put your tongue from the very beginning.

“From now on, we’ll greet each other by kissing just before bed and when waking up in the morning.”

“...Yes.”

“Then once more.”

I let loose and indulge myself.
This time, I try to be more forceful.
I slip my tongue in.
Roxanne seems to accept it honestly.

Our tongues entwine.
While savoring Roxanne's tongue, I take off my pumpkin pants.
And after, with my hand, I take Roxanne's pants. [5]

Notes

[1][ED note: no shame at all]

[2][ED note:what do you mean accidentally....]

[3][TL note: From ch. 30, they don't have a word for "Toothbrush" thus they use "tufted toothpicks" and they use these Shukure branches as toothbrushes.]

[4][ED note: he's probably talking about muscles when mentioning the core.]

[5][ED note: Bring out the wine~~]

[6][ED note: Just to give you guys some info about editing. IT TAKES A WHILE. It's over 200 different edited parts on a story that I didn't write. Also, there is the need to make sure the story flows while keeping the author's meanings.]

Chapter 32 : Morning Business

*

When I came to, I was hugging Roxanne like a body pillow. Roxanne slept to my left and I was clinging to her with both hands and my right leg.

Pretty nice way to wake up. How to put it, a pleasant awakening or being greeted with a pleasant sight after waking up.

Roxanne's smooth skin feels great. It is soft and tender to the touch. Being held by her also feels great. A feeling of joy permeated into me from the areas in contact with her. Although my left hand had found it's way under Roxanne, she wasn't that heavy and my arm wasn't numb either.

Lightly hugging her, I stroked her back. I enjoyed feeling her soft hair.

Both me and Roxanne have nothing on except pumpkin underwear. Isn't there stuff like bra's? Even if there are, they're probably pretty expensive. On my left arm there was a weight with definite elasticity.

Suddenly, my lips were covered. Roxanne kissed me.

She must have surmised my being awake from the movement of my hands. Which reminds me, I had told her to do something to that effect. Was she faithfully carrying out my orders? Being her master's order, she may have been carrying it out since it couldn't be helped.

“Good morning, Master.”

Upon releasing her mouth, after enjoying her soft lips and tongue for a

while, Roxanne greeted me.

“Thank you. Morning, Roxanne”

I opened my eyes, but could not see Roxanne’s beautiful face.
It’s still dark.

Relying on my senses only, I took her lips again.

I made do somehow despite the visual impairment.

I inserted my tongue in the gap between Roxanne’s lips.
I moved it around invitingly at ease and entangled Roxanne’s tongue with my own.

Roxanne responded, though not quite as passionate.

Should be fine to assume that she doesn’t dislike it.
Or she might’ve just put it off as inevitable.
At least it isn’t disliked to the extent of running away.

Though I want to push her down this instant, I’ll endure with a kiss.
Since I held back to a single round yesterday, I’m pretty vigorous.

But these past 10 days, without fail, I visited the labyrinth.
If I don’t go out today, it’ll be pretty much exposed to the inkeeper as to the fun I was having last night.
Though it was pretty much exposed from the instant I asked for a double room.

While kissing her, I took my palm to her head and started stroking it.

After enjoying the feeling of sliding my hand through her velvety hair, I released her mouth.

“Let’s go to the labyrinth for a bit.”
“Yes, Master.”

I reluctantly let go of Roxanne and raised my upper body.
In any case we’ll be having fun tonight anyways. Tonight, tomorrow and the day after that.
So long as Roxanne doesn’t run away, that is.

While sitting down and putting on my shoes, Roxanne put on my shirt for me.

Woah. This gives a pretty good feeling.

Sorta sets a kingly mood.

“Sorry for the trouble.”

“Please, there’s nothing of that sort.”

Is she not used to it? Her actions seem pretty awkward.

She hit my arm.

Rather than awkward, isn’t it because the room is pitch dark?

“Will you be fine in the dark?”

“My apologies. My night vision isn’t that great.”

“No need to overdo it.”

I was given my trousers. I’ll put them on myself afterwards.

I took out and equipped the leather jacket from the item box.

Leather Jacket : Body Armor

Skill: Empty

“By the way, do you know what an empty slot is?”

It’s been on my mind. Since this is a good opportunity I might as well ask.

Uh, did I just involuntarily mention empty slots?

“What are you referring to, Master?”

“Un. It’s about the empty skill slots of my current equipment.”

“Equipment, is it? Of course there are gaps and spaces.”

That’s a typical definition of a slot.

“Equipment can have skills.”

“There are empty spaces that can have them.”

“I’m sorry. I don’t really get it. If there isn’t a skill, doesn’t it mean there’s nothing there?”

Looks like she doesn’t understand.

The weapons merchant didn’t know about them either.

Typically, empty slots are not known of.

“How is a skill attached to equipment?”

“Well, it is common to buy the skill along with the quipment.”

“Not to buy it and attach it oneself.”

I take the leather armour from the box.

I want to pass the armor to Roxanne, but I don't know where and what Roxanne is doing as it is dark.

Roxanne might be changing clothes.

“Only a blacksmith master can fuse the monster card.”

Seems the job of a Blacksmith master is necessary.

The herbalist job is required to make an antidote. The same sort of thing.

“The monster card is?”

“It is something like an intelligence card which a monster has. When it is fused with equipment, a skill is created. It will rarely remain after defeating a monster.”

Oh, so that's how it is.

I can imagine it happening.

“If there is no vacant skill slot, the card is not able to fuse.”

“Whether or not the skill attaches to the equipment depends on the monster card's status, the skill of the blacksmith master and luck.”

“I see. They also occasionally fail?”

“It is said the probablity of failure is larger.”

I don't understand. If there are no empty slots on an equipment, does the skill stick?

I who can use appraisal will have a large advtange in that case.

I can perform fusion without failure.

“Do you know how I could become a blacksmiit master?”

“I'm very sorry. I do not know. As Blacksmith master is a race-specific job, as I'm not a dwarf, I'm unfamiliar with it.”

Darn! (TL: Gan. Exclamation of dissapointing shock.)

And, there is a dwarf race after all?

Though I have not yet met one.

Or am I able to get the Blacksmith master job through some alternative

method?

If it's a race-specific job, will it be difficult?

When it is a requirement to be a dwarf, it seems difficult to achieve.

“Is that so? Then, there's no choice but to ask a blacksmith master to fuse the skills to the equipment?”

“A blacksmith master dislikes direct transactions and is not very friendly. Do you have an acquaintance who is a blacksmith master?”

“Is it impossible?”

“The monster card is destroyed when an attempt to use it fails, so most blacksmith masters will not work directly with customers. Even if there is a blacksmith master like that it won't be certain if you can trust them.

I asked why, and understood.

When a monster card disappears, they don't know whether or not it's a failed fusion or that the blacksmith master is a fraud who cheated them.

When the blacksmith mentor receives a request, he can hide the monster card somewhere and pretend it was a failure.

The client is told it failed, then they fuse the monster card later with another equipment to sell it. A clear profit.

“Is the fusion of a monster card the source of problems?”

“Yes.” (TL: Lit. It is so.)

“Even if the event is witnessed, it's useless?”

“In the old days, there seems to have been a dwarf who made his assets with the slogan of having the clients watch before.”

“I see.”

If it is fraud, any method is imaginable.

After all, when a magician cheats at cards, it's impossible to catch them.

I see.

“So there are no cases that fusion with a monster card is requested from a blacksmith master at first. A blacksmith teacher wouldn't have direct deals, either. You'll look for a place to sell a monster card, and equipment with a skill will be bought elsewhere.”

Not being able to directly interact will cause doubt and suspicion.

As it is a race-specific job, I won't be able to take it. As I don't have the chance for direct deals either, it is troublesome.
Even if I understand that there is an empty slot from appraisal, it is of no use.

Is the appraisal of equipment a useless skill?

Because appraisal has been severely useful in seeing the job of thieves and monsters, It is not something I can complain about.

Is blacksmith master something I could acquire? Even though it's race specific?

There's another possibility that has potential.

Do I add a blacksmith master to the party?

Though, if it's a regular party member then that won't prevent being cheated.

"A blacksmith Master...." (Tl: Said as an object of desire.)

I try to ask whether it's possible to add one as a slave, but then stopped.
It may not be a good idea to ask Roxanne.

For a slave, it may be better to ask the slave merchant.

Do I try to visit after money is accumulated to some degree?

I used my intuition in the dark and moved to the door.

"Is it okay to open the door?"

"Yes. It is alright."

I wait for an answer, then open the door.

The light from the hall lantern enters the room.

It's dim, but I can make out the room.

"Roxanne, use this leather armor."

"Ok, Thank you very much."

I take out some socks and leather shoes to wear.

There is a tub on the floor.

After the activities last night, and rinsing afterwards, there might be some red mixed into the water.

If I leave it as is, when the people of the inn come to clean today they

might find out about the enjoyment last night.

I float the wooden cup on the water, and then picked up the tub in both hands and took it to the rest room to empty.

Afterwards I re-filled both with fresh water.

“Roxanne, do you want some water?”

“Oh, yes, thank you.”

Back in the room, I pass the wooden cup to Roxanne.

The lantern from the passage way lights up Roxanne a bit.

Roxanne was wearing the leather armor.

It's equipment, so it will change shape to fit the person wearing it.

So.... to fit Roxanne....

It's appearance has become similar to a corset.

The cup size of the chest is huge.

Of course that's because of Roxanne.

Is this alright?

It's not alright.

“Here, try wearing this jacket.”

“I'm sorry, Leather armor on it's own is difficult for women to wear.”

Roxanne apologized.

It seems I did something strange.

Was she afraid to point it out because I am he master?

“No, I'm the one at fault. There's a lot of common sense that I don't know, so please teach me.”

I exchange Roxanne's equipment.

The jacket is fine and doesn't really show off her figure too much.

Other people don't need to see that appearance, and if I get excited in the Labyrinth that might be a problem.

“Oh, I didn't think there were any water jars, where did the water come from?”

“I'll explain it properly later.”

“Ok.”

I closed the door.
It wouldn't be good if I'm heard by someone.

“Without using an ointment, is there a skill or magic that can recover health?”

I ask Roxanne.
While in the Labyrinth, I need to think of ways of recovering from attacks.

If it's just me, it's alright to recover using Durandal's HP Absorption. With Roxanne, I might be able pass her Durandal sometimes to allow her to recover as well.

However, that won't be good in the long term. It will cause problems if we only rely on Durandal. For example, it would be difficult to pass it back and forth during a battle. We might not have the chance to wait for the next battle before one of us can recover.

It also costs a bit to use ointment.
It would be good to get a recovery job.

“Yes, the jobs of monks and priests can do it.

Thankfully it seems there are recovery jobs.

“Do you know how to become one?”

“Well, I've heard they undergo severe training.”

“Oh?”

Training?
I can't work it out from just that.

“They train in their guilds in various ways, and I hear a waterfall is used.”

“A waterfall.”

“Also, to travel around all 88 guilds on foot.”

“A pilgrimage.”

Roxanne disregards me muttering “Pilgrimage.”

If there is a waterfall, it might be for mental training.

Priests and Monks are religious jobs, and might require some religious experience.

Maybe meditation, or some mystery experience is needed to get a recovery job.

It might be quite difficult.

If it's some mystery experience, then it's impossible.

Is even spiritual concentration possible?

“.....” TN: Michio is ranting any religious words he can think of from various religions, Amen, etc. Does not MT well.「かしこみ、かしこみ。南無阿弥陀仏。急々如意令。エロイムエツサイム。アラークバル。アーメン」

For the time being, I prayed in various ways.

Even though I tried it, I did not get a new job.

“Strength of mind...” TN: Guessing.「臨・兵・闘.....」

I don't know what else to try.

I need some kind of guide.

I just don't know.

“.....” TN: More priest lines I think.「羯諦羯諦《ぎゃーていぎゃーてい》。のうまくさんまんだーうんたらかたら」やっぱり全部は知らない。

I don't have a clue.

Crap.

Is this how far I can get with my knowledge?

Come Roxanne, lets be sad about it together.

“Has God forsaken me?” TN:「神は我を見放した《エロイ・エロイ・ラマ・サバクタニ》」

Chapter 33 : Job

*

I recite many incantations, but I wasn't able to acquire the healer job.

If I think about it, it is obvious.

If it is so simple to acquire, there wouldn't be any need for training in the first place.

Even if they're called incantations, they sound just like abracadabra. [1]

However, in this world, skills and magic can make things happen.

If they are a simple abracadabra, it would be impossible. [1]

There might be a spell required in order to gain the job.

Isn't there any other way?

“Come to think of it, in order to become a monk, people train to defeat demons barehanded. If that's the case, I think I could be able to do such a thing too.”

Roxanne gives me a hint while I was troubled.

I think Roxanne should have told me sooner, but I didn't say anything.

Is there something I can do too?

“Defeat demons barehanded”... what?!

Roxanne is frankly a very scary girl, isn't she?

However, defeating a demon barehanded is a possibility.

A swordsman job is probably acquired by fighting with a sword.

If it's possible to acquire the swordsman job by fighting with a sword, then there would be a job that can be acquired by fighting unarmed.

So, a monk fights barehanded?

Or if monk is not possible, maybe there's a job similar to a bare-fisted fighter.

There's some value in experimenting.

There are many questions

For a fight, is hitting once enough? Or is defeating it necessary?

As for defeating, do you have to do it from the start? Or is delivering the

last blow enough?

If it's from the start, do you need to fight alone? Or is it okay engaging with a party?

For now, there's no other choice but to try.

I open the door to the room.

The wooden cup that Roxanne returned I put in the rucksack which I put on my back.

I finish by hanging the copper sword from my waist.

Ah. We haven't formed a party.

I cast [Party Formation].

"Forming a party, how do I do it?"

"Let's see. If I'm not mistaken, I think it's an Explorer's skill."

"Well, that is so, but..."

I was really talking to myself, but Roxanne replies.

In my mind, I add Roxanne to the party.

"Ah."

Roxanne says in a low voice.

Oh. Seems it's done.

Even I know that I had added Roxanne to the party.

Am I added to this party by default?

I tried to add myself to the party, but nothing happens.

Well, after all, it's a party I formed.

I'm uneasy, but for the time being, it should be alright.

It's right to think that because I am a party member, I knew Roxanne was in the party.

"What are the effects of a party?"

"If travel magic is applied to the party, everyone will move together. Even if one loses sight of a party member, one will still know the general direction of them. Also, I've been told the experience is shared."

"It is shared?!"

Is the experience acquired equally distributed?

“When a noble’s child is born, the baby is put in a six member party and the five retainers enter a labyrinth. Due to the five people’s acquired experience, the baby also grows.”

Cheating as expected of dirty nobles.

“Eh? If so, even if you become an adult, one doesn’t necessarily have ever entered a labyrinth then?”

“There are people that make proper use of these vassal groups. However, about people never entering, really...”

Well, is that so. If one doesn’t enter labyrinths, then for what purpose do they level up for?

“About a group of vassals entering, is it possible for one to live from that?”

“Err. Ah... That...”

“Ah... No. I’m not thinking of making Roxanne enter the labyrinth alone.”

As I said that, I realize the reason.

Is there a means to live in comfort with the earnings from making slaves enter the labyrinth?

Well, but that seems pretty troublesome.

You’d be irresponsibly avoiding all work.

“It could be used when one raises their Explorer level, but such talk is pretty rare. Sometimes people at a site where something valuable is discovered in the labyrinth will be disposed of. That’s why, when sending someone to the labyrinth...”

Looks unreasonable.

“I see. Then, shall we go?”

“Yes.”

We go out the room.

Lock it and go down the stairs.

Like always, I entrust the key to the innkeeper.

As usual. Like always.

“Take care.”

We go out.

Like usual, it was pitch black.

“Then, follow me for a bit”

Just to be sure, I take Roxanne’s hand.

I faced the Inn’s wall and cast [Warp].

Like that, we enter.

“Ah? S-say.”

I pulled Roxanne’s hand and came out the labyrinth’s first floor.
Roxanne appears right away.

“It seems to be alright.”

“Eh? Eh? Eh? This is the labyrinth?”

Roxanne seems to be a bit confused.

But, from looking at the surroundings and understanding it was inside a labyrinth, soon her facial expression sharpens.

It is a serious look.

She showed the same look when talking about the labyrinth at the inn.

Her facial expression is a bit scary.

“It is the first floor of the labyrinth just outside Vale town”

“But, you can’t use [Dungeon Walk] unless you’re inside a labyrinth... And what’s more, if it’s [Field Walk], you could use it from that place, but couldn’t enter directly into the labyrinth.”

I see.

[Field Walk] can’t transfer you into a labyrinth.

Well, that might be so.

If that wasn’t, there wouldn’t be any reason for an Explorer and Adventurer to share the same party. Rather than bother coming out of the adventurer’s guild wall, transferring directly into the labyrinth is faster.

“As expected, that is the case.”

“In the first place, because Master is an Explorer, you couldn’t be able to use [Field Walk].”

Since Roxanne read my intelligence card, she knows I’m an Explorer.

“This is a travel magic called [Warp].”

“I haven’t heard of it.”

Seems she doesn’t know about [Bonus Magic].

“It seems there are very few people beside me that can use it. That’s why keep it a secret.”

“Y-yes.”

“Please.”

I forcibly make Roxanne to agree.

“Master is amazing.”

It is forced, but she seems to understand.

Roxanne looks at me with a bit of a respectful look.

“Not really.”

It’s not bad being stared at by a beautiful girl.

I take out the leather cap from the [Item Box] and place it on Roxanne’s head who is looking at me with sparkly eyes.

The leather cap conceals her dog ears. It’s a bit of a waste but safety first.

I put on the other one.

“Err. Also the way you use [Item Box] seems a bit different. Is that also a different magic?”

“No, this is just a normal [Item Box].”

“Is that so?”

I take out the leather mittens and pass them to Roxanne.

While having her decide when to wear it, I had her carry the wooden shield too.

I wear the leather gloves, take out the wand and we are finished preparing.

I felt like Roxanne had an odd expression when she saw the wand.

However she didn't say anything.

As expected, she's being reserved in regards of her master.

"Is a wand a weapon a Wizard uses?"

"Yes, that's what I've heard."

"Do you know if it increases magic attack power or not?"

"I don't know. I'm sorry. I don't know the details. I didn't know anyone who could use magic."

Seems you can't become a Wizard if you aren't rich.

"I see. Do you know about Intelligence?"

"Is it about being smart?"

"No. Well, something like that, but..."

How should I say it?

"Like talking about brains?"

"Is Intelligence what increases Magic Attack?"

"Does being smart raise your Magic Attack?"

She replied back with a question.

Is there no knowledge about Status and Parameters?

"Like when you level up, things like Intelligence rises."

"Speaking of levels, are you talking about Explorer levels?"

"Well, that's ok too."

"Even if you level up Explorer, I don't think you'll particularly get smarter."

How should I say it, seems like the conversation isn't leading anywhere. I give up about Intelligence. Should I ask other thing?

"Hmmm. And Roxanne, have you entered any labyrinth?"

"Yes. Around three sites."

"The labyrinths, does every one have the same look?"

I'll gather information about the labyrinths.

I'll have her teach me everything she knows about labyrinths. It'd be good if she is able to answer as much.

Is it better if I ask specific questions?

“That’s right. Master is an Explorer. After all, I think you should know, but...”

“... No. It’s because I haven’t entered many.”

“Is that so?”

Still, is it okay for her to teach me everything?

“Say. Demons don’t come out in this room, isn’t it?”

“Demons don’t come out in the rooms where you can use [Dungeon Walk]. I don’t know about Master’s magic.”

“In that case, it is okay. Because this is the first room after entering the first floor.”

I point Roxanne towards the black wall behind us. The wall that leads to the entrance and other levels.

“Yes. That looks like it.”

“Then, we’ll leave this room, but I’d like you to help me with some experiments first. I think Roxanne will get to fight later. Don’t get too nervous.”

“Understood. It’s alright with me.”

Somehow, it seems really alright.

Or perhaps, should I say, she seems more composed than me.

The experiments I told Roxanne are just simple tests.

What happens if I raise the parameters with the bonus points from the [Character Reset]?

Since until now, I’ve been giving priority to exploration to gather funds, so I haven’t tried it yet.

First, I assign 99 points to raising Intelligence.

I cast [Character Reset] and fiddle with it.

Incidentally, I look at the [Bonus Skills].

Among the [Bonus Skills] are [Level Limit Unlock], [Damage Limit Unlock] and [Party Entries Unlock]. These three Unlocks were right next to each other. [2]

[Level Limit Unlock] and [Damage Limit Unlock]. Somehow I can

understand.

Since I don't think I'll be restricted for a lowly Explorer Lv27, I just leave it alone.

However, I wonder what is [Party Entries Unlock]?

When I was solo, it was out of the question, but now I'm in a party with Roxanne.

It's possible that we'd be obstructed by some restriction.

In the [Character Reset], I check the [Party Entries Unlock] option. The [Character Setting] screen got refreshed.

It seems a few new entries were installed.

In [Bonus Magic], [Partyization] was added. [3]

What's that? Is it for the party?

Is it for inserting someone in the party?

Is that Party formation?

For now I'll check the option.

[Bonus Skills] was changed too.

[Job Setting] now changed into [Party Job Setting].

It isn't checked. Seems it isn't useful yet.

I check it and gain [Party Job Setting].

As expected, it costs 2 bonus points.

I finish the [Character Reset] and cast [Partyization]

Besides not knowing how to use it, there's no other way than to test it.

It's unreliable, but it shouldn't be a dangerous magic.

After casting, I knew what it was requesting.

That thing is probably an item.

Isn't it a magic that gives the item's effect to the whole party?

"Roxanne, did you feel anything strange?"

"What is it?"

It seems there wasn't any change in Roxanne's case.

It looks like only the user is affected.

Well, is it natural?

Next, I look at Roxanne and cast [Party Job Setting].
The jobs came to my mind.

Beast Soldier Lv6, Villager Lv8, Farmer Lv1, Warrior Lv1, Swordsman Lv1, Explorer Lv1.

These should be the jobs Roxanne has.
Seems I can seriously change them.
It's great that she doesn't have the Thief series job.
It means that she has never stolen anything since she was born.

Beast Soldier Lv6
Effects: [Agility Medium Increase], [Stamina Small Increase], [Skill Small Increase]
Skill: [Beast Attack]

Looks like Beast Soldier's effects are good.
It's ok to leave it like that.
Being able to change party member's jobs, depending on how you use it is a fairly powerful skill.

Unfortunately, [Character Reset] didn't become a [Party Character Reset].

"Then, let's go."
"Err. I think it's a good idea to lease a Magic Crystal"

Roxanne and I stay in the small room when we were about to leave.
"Eh? What?"
"A Magic Crystal."
"Magic Crystal?"

Roxanne nodded.
"Erm. Demons hold magic power. When you defeat a demon, that magic power, little by little, is collected in a Magic Crystal. The collected magic power after being sold can be used as an energy source for the Guild Temple and other things." [4]
"About leasing them."
"If you aren't carrying a Magic Crystal, you won't collect the magic power

from defeated demons.”

Seems it is something I haven't done.

Up till now, I haven't carried one.

“In short, if you are carrying a Magic Crystal, you'll collect magic power while defeating demons.”

“Yes”

“By any chance, can a Magic Crystal be sold for a lot of money?”

“That is so, from the items you can get in a labyrinth, I think it is the most expensive.”

W-what did you say?

“...It that so?”

“Ah, no. It can be sold for a lot, but magic power is something you can only collect little by little. A Magic Crystal is not something you sell many times in a lifetime. Even if you haven't carried one until now, it isn't a big loss. It's alright.”

She takes into consideration that I look depressed.

“How do you get a Magic Crystal?”

“You can find one in a labyrinth or if you go to the Explorer's Guild, you can buy one that's been emptied of magic power.”

“Then we'll go buy one later. I haven't seen something like that in the labyrinth so far.”

I think I haven't seen a Magic Crystal here yet.

Or, even if I saw one since I didn't know, did I ignore them?

“This labyrinth, isn't it relatively new since it's been found?”

“I've heard that. Seems it's just over 10 days old.”

“In that case probably there's no Magic Crystal. Because it takes time for the magic power to gather and crystallize.”

So I didn't simply let one pass?

“About earning money from the labyrinth, is there any other way besides item drops from demons and Magic Crystals?”

“There are Treasure Chests.”

Ah. As expected, there were Treasure Chests?

“I don’t think I’ve seen one.”

“I think there are very few in a new labyrinth. Even if there is, they’re higher up.”

“Up?”

“Yes. It’s the place one aims towards while advancing the exploration. I think if taken from the position of one that just got in.”

It wasn’t down, but up?

I had the image that the labyrinth spread underground, but...

There are many inconsistencies with that.

“Never mind. Well then, where should we go?”

The right one is to go to the second floor, but I wasn’t really aiming to explore.

Then, let’s go look in the middle.

When I was leaving, Roxanne stopped me.

“Master, the demons are closer on the left side.”

“Eh? You can tell?”

“Yes. I can smell them.”

What’s that?

“Is it because you’re from the wolf beast tribe?”

“Even among the wolf beast tribe, my nose is very effective. I pride myself on detecting demons.”

“Amazing.”

“Thank you.”

We advance left, choosing among the passages leading left, right and center.

A Needle Wood appears not one minute after walking.

Amazing, Roxanne.

Good looks, good in bed, good in the labyrinth.

She fills three important requisites.

“Really amazing.”

“Here it comes.”

“No, wait a second.”

I stop Roxanne who was heading towards the Needle Wood.
I cast [Fire Ball].

“Eh?”

Roxanne raises a confused voice.
A fireball appears over my head.

Notes:

[1][TL Note: prayers, good luck charms, abracadabra, presto, such phrases that in the real world do nothing]

[2][TL Note: Original Japanese had them as 解除 = cancellation, release. Chose to use Unlock/Unlocking which seems to be a more common term nowadays in videogames.]

[3][TL Note: the Japanese パーティライゼーション seems to be combination of パーティー = party and パーソナライゼーション = personalization or maybe not, since it seems to confer a party wide effect to items]

[4][TL Note: We still don't know if it's Guild Temple or Shrine or some other thing, until it's revealed or one is visited in later chapters.]

Chapter 34 : Secrets

*

Needle Wood Lvl is crushed with 1 blow from [Fireball] with bonus points poured in until Intellect increased to 99.

If I don't allocate anything, it surely needs 2 to 3 shots.

I have no doubts that the magic attack power has risen due to Intellect's increase.

I don't think the size has changed, but the speed has increased. If the movement velocity increases then it becomes difficult to dodge. A welcome change.

Even if Intellect is increased to the max, it only gets bigger by approximately one size? That's as much as it gets.

In my case, looks like it doesn't change much.

To take it down in 1 blow, the power still increases, so there is no problem.

"Eh? Eeh? Eeehhh? ... Is-isn't this magic?"

Roxanne, who sees my magic, is a bit confused.

"It's magic."

"Isn't Master an [Explorer]? But I have not heard that an [Explorer] can use magic."

But, she soon regains her composure.

Her facial expression returns to the serious expression she had when we entered the labyrinth.

As expected, it seems that there are not many people who can take up a second job.

"Well, this is also a secret."

"It's a se-secret?"

I'm deceiving her by keeping everything a secret.

Actually, it is useless to explain.

Would she understand that second job is applied by [Character Reset]?

“Do you understand what [Character Reset] is?”

“Re...set?”

“What about Bonus Points?”

“Is it something specially received as a reward?”

“Umu.”

After all, explanation is impossible.

“S-Somehow I don’t understand it, but being able to use magic is amazing.”

“Thanks.”

“Moreover, being able to defeat a monster with one blow from magic is amazing. Magic has more power than a sword, but I heard that defeating in one blow is somewhat difficult.”

“Well it’s not always one blow. Just don’t lose focus now.”

I think Roxanne is the type that doesn’t lose much focus in the labyrinth.

Roxanne goes to the place where the Needle Wood fell and picks up the branch.

I take it from the rucksack where she tries to place it.

“Erm. I will carry that.”

“It’s fine. There is still space in the [Item Box].”

I put the branch in the [Item Box].

“There is space? Erm. Excuse me, if it’s fine, I would like to ask what Master’s level is?”

“[Explorer]? It’s Lv27.”

“Lv27 ... Amazing ... Certainly, if that is the case, then there is space.”

I can put in the [Item Box] a number of items equivalent to the level. It seems Roxanne also knows this.

However, Roxanne who was thinking “But we’re almost the same age”, was she pondering what my level could be?

Even though she was not at a price a low level could afford.

Is it that? Does she think that I spend my parents’ money?

The usual son who comes from afar, living on his parents' inheritance. It's probably become an excuse for my lack of common sense.

My level, it could be summed up as a bit high if you look at my age, but not to the extent that it's impossible.

For 200x Experience over 10 days of entering the labyrinth, holidays aside, that is just under 6 years' worth.

Aren't there children who enter a labyrinth from 11 years old in this world?

When I think about raising levels, I don't know what will happen from now on, but...

"About my level, keep it a secret."

"Of course."

But since she asked, it is alright to tell her though it is discourteous. As expected, Roxanne knows how important privacy is.

"Well then, where should we go?"

"Is it fine to go to a place where there are monsters?"

"Because I don't want to be seen using magic by too many people, if possible, I would like a place where there are no people."

"Understood. Because it's a secret."

It seems that she understands it is a secret.

Because it is an order, she seems to be giving precedence to maintaining secrecy.

However, it is amazing that she can easily acknowledge the direction of places without people.

If she recognizes the smell of monsters, it can be said she also can smell people.

"I am relying on you. Roxanne is really useful."

"Thank you very much. This way."

Roxanne guides me.

"Can you tell monster types and numbers by the smell?"

"I can tell to some extent, but not perfectly. Also, I can't tell by the smell

if they're on the other side of a hidden door, so monsters may appear along the way. I can't always know what the shortest route to *the monster is."

While advancing and talking with Roxanne, we soon arrive at the place with monsters.

She is really useful.

This time, I raise my intellect to 50 points and fire a [Fireball].

Needle Wood Lv1 endures the hellfire.

"Not good enough?"

"Please, leave it to me."

Roxanne pulls out her scimitar.

She runs off without waiting for my reply.

This is unexpected.

Even though 2 [Fireball] shots would have been enough.

Roxanne enters the space between me and the monster to finish it off, so I can't shoot magic.

I can't expect the [Fireball] to pass through party members.

Since [Firestorm] did not work on the thieves, then probably it will not work on party members.

Roxanne swings her sword which is held in her right hand and slashes the Needle Wood.

She steps aside to avoid the swung branch.

She targets the shoulder of the monster that just missed. Like that, she lands a single cut.

Roxanne again easily avoids the branch swung from the right.

She steps in and swings the scimitar down from the front.

The swung branch is avoided with half a step. While avoiding, she lands a hit.

Amazing.

I stare for a little bit.

Roxanne perfectly avoids the Needle Wood's attacks.

It doesn't feel like the monster's attacks hit.

She doesn't just easily avoid them; the avoiding distance is paper thin. She evades the monster's attacks by centimeters, no, it's millimeters.

At a simple glance, it looks like there isn't much margin, but it's actually the opposite. [1]

If avoiding by a lot, it results in wasted movements. Shifting to attack becomes difficult.

If one can perfectly see all enemy attacks, then just barely dodging them is best.

Roxanne's movements are exactly that. She looks like she's dancing magnificently. She is avoiding with light steps or turning her body to let them go past.

Are the Needle Wood's attacks so predictable? Well certainly with the branches.

I put the wand on my waist, drawing the copper sword, and I also engage.

Because Roxanne is present, there's time to switch weapons. There might be even enough time to bring out Durandal. I'll do that starting from the next one.

I join the battle with the copper sword. I take up position a little bit apart from Roxanne on the left side and swing down my copper sword. I receive a branch swung from the left. I deflect the branch from the right.

The branch that misses Roxanne due to her dodging approaches me. I avert my upper body in a hurry. With my posture about to collapse, from the left, the branch is swung. Somehow, with the copper sword, I receive it.

Yeah. To say it plainly, it is unreasonable. It is not easily avoidable for me unlike Roxanne.

Moreover, Roxanne is slashing many times in the meantime. I also find a chance and drive in my copper sword.

The Needle Wood collapses.
It drops a branch, becomes smoke, and disappears.

“A-amazing. You avoided all of the attacks.”
“Thank you very much. Because we’re in a party of two, I wasn’t worried.”

Not at all. When you are alone, you dodged everything, isn’t it?

“Is that so?”
“If you look properly, that level of attack can be dodged.”

That might be so.
However to be frank, I don’t think anyone can do it.
Roxanne is an amazing person, isn’t she?
Even knows the monsters’ whereabouts.

“Going to the next monster, I want you to leave it to me.”
“Got it.”

The way things are going, I’ll be taken lightly as a master.
Although, I can use magic.
I feel like I should show her a fight with some impact.

Generally, Roxanne’s movements feel almost like a demi-god.
That is impossible for a normal person.
At least, it is impossible for me.
Since there is [Overwhelming], I might be able to imitate her a little bit.

So, I might say Roxanne is always in a state of [Overwhelming].
Perhaps she’s really using it, isn’t she?

“Regarding [Beast Attack], what kind of skill is it?”

Beast warriors possess [Beast Attack] skill.
It might have an effect similar to [Overwhelming].
By the name, I think it is an attack skill.

“It is a technique that deals a large amount of damage to monsters.
However, I’m sorry. I cannot use it.”

“Can’t use it?”

“All skills and magic incantations are in Brahim language. Since ancient

times, due to the Brahim language's power of words, it has been treated as a sacred language. A person who can't speak the Brahim language can't use skills."

Is that how it is?

It seems that Brahim language is a useful language.

To use skills, one must learn Brahim language.

It has become a common language.

"But, it seems you have reached a point where you can speak Brahim language."

"Yes. However, it is still insufficient."

"Don't understand things like incantations?"

"No, since the incantations needed to use skills appear in the mind.

However, the differences in pronunciation, accent, intonation, minute nuances, etc., if they're not all perfect, the incantation will be unsuccessful. Not only to the extent of daily conversation, but if you aren't completely fluent in the Brahim language, using skill incantations is impossible."

Come to think of it, I understand that incantations somehow appear in my mind.

This seems to be the same for other people.

"Is that so?"

"When using a skill, one must make an opportunity to chant the incantation. Not being able to use skills is not a big problem. For a beginner like me, it is not good to use skills."

"I see."

I guess for a vanguard to use attack skills, that is the case.

I don't think Roxanne is a beginner.

"Errm. Is it fine to listen to one?"

"What?"

"When Master uses magic, there is no chanting of incantations. I thought chanting was necessary for skills and magic."

Crap.

My asking about skills has brought trouble upon me.

“It’s not something I can teach. I think it’s impossible with the exception of me. Keep it secret.”

“Certainly.”

“Umu.”

I already feel bad keeping everything secret.

“As expected, Master is amazing. Also, you’ve mastered the Brahim language so easily. People who master the Brahim language are really amazing.”

Roxanne intensely gazes at me.

I am a bit embarrassed. Since the ability was bestowed to me. I don’t really understand why I can speak the Brahim language.

“Oh, really?”

“Yes...”

I pull myself together and move on with Roxanne in the lead. While following, I take out Durandal. For other skills, I set [Required Experience 1/5] and [Experienced Gained x10].

Bonus skills are a reduction in necessary experience and an increase in acquired experience.

While together in a party, the [Experience Gained] may be divided between the party members.

The [Required Experience] might just work only for me.

In few minutes, we arrived at a place with monsters.

“As expected, Roxanne is amazing!”

“Am I?”

Until now, I had been walking around randomly, waiting to encounter monsters.

The difference in efficiency is overwhelming.

“Hmm. By the way, have a look at my sword. What do you think about

it?”

“It is a very splendid sword.”

I show Durandal to Roxanne.

The answer isn't quite what I wanted, but she understands that it's a good sword.

I charge towards the monster.

While running I raise Durandal and strike at the Needle Wood Lvl. In a single blow, the monster is defeated and disappears into smoke.

“In a s-single blow, Master is amazing.”

Roxanne has a slightly bewildered expression as she picks up the branch.

It's an unprecedented good feeling to have such a beautiful woman looking at me.

After all, I can rely on Durandal.

I think Roxanne's impression of me has gone up.

“Well, but it is the sword that is the amazing one.”

“It's definitely a good sword. Also, it is properly maintained and it looks just like new.”

Roxanne inspects Durandal while I'm holding it up.

Durandal's condition seems to have been acknowledged by Roxanne's judgment.

If I think about it, whenever I use [Character Reset], it probably appears as brand new.

Otherwise, despite me having thoroughly used it, it would not be in great condition unlike the scimitar and copper sword which are almost unused.

Roxanne was angry at the condition of the scimitar and copper sword. I don't know how they were used before I got them though.

“This sword is a secret.”

“It's a secret?”

“Well, if people find out about this sword....”

I take Roxanne's hand and pull it. [2]

I turn my hand towards her neck, and motion it like a sword.

“Eh?”

“Give me the sword or I’ll kill this woman! That sort of thing might happen.”

“Ye-yes. That is certainly so. I understand.”

“Yes.”

I let Roxanne go.

With a slight threat, I think she won’t treat a secret irresponsibly. There really is a possibility.

“However, if a time comes when that happens, please choose the sword without holding back.”

“Well, I’ll be choosing Roxanne, but... I want to try and avoid getting into a situation where I could lose either.”

“Certainly. ...Well, thank you very much.”

If she understands that there is such a possibility, she will not talk about it.

After that, we try a few things.

Testing objectives are: First, I want to calculate the smallest number of bonus points I need to increase Intellect by to defeat a Needle Wood Lv1 with one spell.

The fourth and fifth jobs are set to [Merchant] and [Herbalist] since they both have small intellect increases as part of their job stats.

And then, I want to test if there is a change in how many bonus points I need to increase intellect by to defeat a Needle Wood Lv1 with one spell.

If the necessary bonus points decrease, then match the effect of adding a job with small intellect increase.

The results:

Probably, the effects of the fourth and fifth jobs properly overlap.

It probably wouldn’t change even if I added [Warrior] Lv16. Since the small stamina increase from [Warrior] probably isn’t related to magic attack power.

Even if I add [Swordsman] Lv2, they probably wouldn’t decrease. Perhaps

the manifested effects are only the added parts (or the positive stats). [3]

It's only a possibility because even if I have the same bonus points allocated, sometimes a monster will be defeated and sometimes it won't. There seem to be individual differences between the monsters. Or, perhaps the correlation between the magic damage and intellect isn't constant?

However, the fact that with the same points sometimes they're defeated and sometimes not, there's a use for it.

"Alright, I will defeat it bare handed."

"Okay."

Even if the monster isn't defeated in one shot, it is nearly dead and easy to defeat.

I put away the Wand, and attack it together with Roxanne.

Roxanne attacks the Needle Wood Lvl from the right, and I attack from the left bare-handed.

I punch its bark, but was it damaged?

A branch swings from the left.

I move my body roughly and narrowly avoid it.

I jump back two or three steps and nearly fall on my butt.

Since I'm not using the sword and I'm in close to the monster, it feels like quite a serious fight.

Roxanne brilliantly dodges the Needle Wood's attacks.

I wonder how she avoids it so easily.

Damn.

Maybe it's better to kick in this situation.

I turn sideways and kick it.

After the kick, I drive in a punch.

It swings a branch at me again.

No good, I can't avoid it.

In exchange for three jabs, I receive one hit myself.

I continue with a right straight punch delivered with all my might.

The body of the Needle Wood shakes violently.
After a little while, it begins to crumble.
The monster disappears into smoke.

I cast my [Job Setting].
Was that fine?

Hu? There is nothing.
Next is [Party Job Setting].

[Beast Soldier] Lv6, [Villager] Lv8, [Farmer] Lv1, [Warrior] Lv1,
[Swordsman] Lv1, [Explorer] Lv1, [Herbalist] Lv1, [Monk] Lv1.

Roxanne got it.

“Did you get in the last blow Roxanne?”
“Yes. After Master hit it, it fell when I attacked with a thrust.”

Really? I didn't see it.
Apparently you need to land the finishing blow to acquire the Monk job.

Notes:

^ [TL Note: As in to untrained eyes she's avoiding by a hair's breadth, but with Roxanne's ability there's a lot of margin in that hair's breadth.]

^ [Panda note: This guy could have just said it, but noooooo.....sasuga ecchi]

^ [TL Note: I think he means that stats and stat increases aren't averaged with the additional jobs, so adding a low level job won't decrease your total stats or stat increases.] [ED: Everything from main job, but only extra bonus stats and skills from the others. Got it.]

Chapter 35 : Monk

*

It appears that one needs to defeat a monster barehanded to gain the Monk job.

Roxanne, who delivered the finishing blow, acquired the job, but my jobs didn't increase even though I participated in the battle.

There's no helping it; to acquire the Monk job, we'll have to continue with the experiment.

"I'll deliver the finishing blow. Roxanne, just encircle it, but don't attack."

I take on the Needle Wood that didn't fall down after being shot with magic.

There have been instances where they're defeated with a single shot, so it must have sustained considerable damage.

Even saying so, facing it alone is pretty dangerous.
Or perhaps, impossible.

We both surround it.

Doing so, I'll only receive half the attacks.

Whoa.

Sometimes the branches that miss Roxanne can reach me too.

I don't know if a Needle Wood has a front or back side.
After all, it can swing its branches and attack in any direction.
As expected of a strange wooden man.[1]

I have a hunch that we don't have an advantage surrounding it from the front and back.

However, it does decrease the number of attacks from the monster.
In reality, I'm the only one attacking, but I'm not the only target of the Needle Wood.

No matter how you look at it, Roxanne is stronger than me.
Seems it can't ignore her.

Roxanne, as usual, is avoiding the monster's attacks by a paper-thin margin.

The Needle Wood's branches are completely missing her.

What's with those movements?

Roxanne lightly moves aside, avoiding the monster's attack.

Once a gap is open, I give it a punch.

It swings its branch; I avoid it with large movements.

Its upper body is knocked back, but the monster aims for Roxanne.

Roxanne, again, easily avoids the thrown attack.

Since some time ago she's been doing it repeatedly.

Occasionally it's different; the monster's attack hits me.

Of course it misses Roxanne.

Possibly, from the Needle Wood's point of view, it looks like its attacks are hitting Roxanne, or maybe not.

At a glance, it doesn't look like a close battle.

That's if you see everything perfectly.

Since I'm the only one attacking, the battle takes a long time.

After the jab, I hit one, two straights.

I transfer force to it by rotating my hips.

It's not like it isn't taking damage from my fists.

I avoid a swung branch in a hurry.

There's a chance when the opponent misses, but since I messed up my posture, I can't follow up with a counterattack.

Next, the monster attacks Roxanne, but misses.

I simply use [Rush] here when it counts.

I take a step forward and another. I throw a straight punch while advancing another step.

Finally, the monster falls down.

I overcome this long mortal combat.[2]

Of course, this mortal combat was between me and the Needle Wood.

Since I was the only one attacking, I'm certain I delivered the finishing blow.

I cast [Job Setting].

Monk Lv1

Effects: [Mind Small Increase] [MP Minute Increase]

Skills: [Medical Treatment]

This is it.

I set the job immediately and use [Medical Treatment].

The top of my shoulders are in pain because I got hit by the monster's attack several times.

"Certainly, the pain has subsided. From now on, if you suffer the attack of a monster, I can use a skill to heal it, so make sure to always tell me."

I inform Roxanne.

"You can do that?"

"Yes. Keep that a secret."

"I... I understand. Master is amazing."

Roxanne can speak fluently in the Brahim Language, but...

Generally, I have the feeling she's told me a lot of times that I'm amazing since a while ago, but it's only because I have multiple jobs. [3]

I feel like a fraud.

From my chat with Roxanne, it seems the monk's skill can only cure light injuries.

In case of large wounds like getting an arm cut off, the higher tier nourishment tablets are necessary.

But in short, it can be managed somehow or another with money. I'm relieved.

After further verification, we return through the wall in the Adventurer's Guild.

Also we properly verified if wands have effects.

[Fire Ball], [Fire Storm], [Breeze Ball], [Sand Ball], their power probably isn't increased.

I increased my Strength to 99 with bonus points, and swung a copper sword, but I couldn't beat it with a single strike.

Basically, magic has more power than a sword.

I wonder how powerful Durandal is.

After returning to the Inn, I eat breakfast with Roxanne.

Then, once we entered our room.

“It’s very helpful having Roxanne around. I’m counting on your help from now on.”

I expressed my thanks to her after sitting on the bed.

Honestly, she’s really helpful.

First, having the ability to search for monsters, we could find them quickly.

I haven’t ever defeated as many monsters in a single exploration as we did this time.

To an extent, we didn’t spend a long time inside the labyrinth. We only explored the first level, but we got every monster. Furthermore, for experimentation and acquiring the Monk job, one portion was spent in pointlessly long battles.

Inside the [Item Box] there are two slots full of branches and a third with a single branch.

Explorer is Lv27 now, so [Item Box] can stack up to 27 of the same item in a slot.

To sum it up, this morning’s exploration earned us 55 branches.

Additionally, we got 6 leaves.

Also, with Roxanne, I can let her be the vanguard and safely attack with magic.

Today, Roxanne didn’t get hit by any monster’s attack.

She effectively dodged everything.

While in the company of Roxanne I can bring out Durandal.

Any time I want, I can use Durandal to absorb MP from an enemy, so efficiency has gone up.

“Yes. Thank you. I look forward to working with you.”

Roxanne bows her head while standing at the room’s entrance.

Even if she lifts her head, it doesn't look like she'll move from there.

"I'll be counting on you."

"This is the first time I've defeated so many monsters. Master is amazing!"

"No. It's my first time too. It's thanks to Roxanne guiding me. Roxanne is the amazing one!"

"That's not true. We defeated so many because of master's overwhelming strength. And you did many amazing things."

Somehow, we end up praising each other.

"Now, come sit here."

"Y... yes."

I beckon Roxanne.

Looks like I have to tell her to do everything.

"From now on, inside the room, you can sit whenever you like. Or, it'd be good if you were close to me whenever possible, as in sitting beside me. It's not like I'll push you down if you sit beside me, errr, I can't say absolutely not, but I won't do it much."

Because Roxanne came next to me, I want to embrace her very much. I can't endure it any more.

I peek down the neck of her tunic at her unreasonably seductive white skin.

"I... It's all right. I don't mind it, ah..."

Because she said such a pleasant thing, I may have spontaneously embraced her.

I think now Roxanne is at fault.

Saying I don't mind, do you mean us lying down in bed?

Ah. Or does she mean it's all right if we just stay like this?

Dammit!

It can't be helped. In exchange for not getting laid, I'll calm down by playing with her dog ears.

They're elastic and soft; they feel good.

“May I taste them?”

“Ehh. T-that... I don't think they'll be tasty.”

No, I'm sure they'll be delicious.

Ahh, what am I saying?

Roxanne looks troubled as she hangs her head down.

That's not it.

I won't eat them.

I want to eat them, but not in that way.

“I'm not really going to eat them, just play with them.”

Just hold them in my mouth and taste their sweetness.

“Y-yes.”

“Is it ok if I touch your ears this way? If in any way you feel displeased or in pain just tell me. I'll stop.”

“As long as you don't do anything strange, it's all right. Besides, well... It feels good when you caress them.”

Roxanne, whispering that while averting her gaze, is extraordinarily cute.

As expected, it's ok for me to eat them?

However, her dog ears are reminding me of something.

A puff of baby powder, that's not it. Something edible.

Not a cream puff, sponge cake, or marshmallows. Something more springy.

That's it, Isobeyaki. [4]

These droopy ears have the stretchy feeling of fried mochi rice cake.

They're floppy and dangle helplessly.

They are moderately elastic and soft, being very charming to the human heart.

Isobeyaki?

It's a food I like, but I might not get to eat it again in this lifetime.

I wonder whether or not there's mochi, soy sauce, and nori seaweed in this world.

“Do you know if one can find Isobeyaki in this region?”

“Isobeyaki?”

“Yes. It is a food I like from my home town”

“I don’t know about this region, but if we go to the ocean, I think we can grill and eat some fish at the beach.”

That’s the literal meaning of Isobeyaki.

Maybe, it’s translating literally into Brahim language.

So, even if it’s translated, some concepts don’t necessarily exist.

“Is that so, well, let’s try searching for it?”

“Er-errmm. ...Master, will you someday return to your home town?”

Roxanne asked.

As expected she’s curious.

“My home town?”

“Yes.”

“Rather than returning to my hometown, I’ve acquired something even better.”

We chat while I keep playing with her dog ears.

This place isn’t Japan. But there’s a nice substitute for Isobeyaki.

I got the best dish. It’s soft, smooth, and springy.

“ ...”

“I won’t return to my hometown. Probably, I can’t return.”

Because Roxanne has gone silent, it seems I gave her too serious an answer.”

I know it’s something I must think about.

“Really?”

“Yeah. If I had to return to my home town, unfortunately, I’d have to release Roxanne.”

I lift her ears with my hands and flap them around.

“No, well. That was not my intention.”

“It’s okay. I understand.”

“I think it is normal to sell a slave that is no longer necessary.”

I see. Is that common sense?

Is Roxanne anxious because she's afraid of being sold?

"I intend to be with Roxanne forever."

"Okay. Thank you."

"However, because it only makes sense to aim to increase the party's battle potential, I plan to increase the number of party members!"

I make my harem declaration in a roundabout way.

I'm just saying that I'm increasing the party members, without mention of increasing the harem members.

Even if it's inevitable that the vanguard will be some muscular middle-aged man, the rear guard must be a collection of pretty girls, don't you agree?

I think that's common sense.

"Yes, that's to be expected."

I don't know how much Roxanne understands. I interpret it that she gave her consent.

I'm not sure if it's really reasonable or not to increase your party members.

Gathering more party members would mean that from now on, we will get our income by exploring labyrinths.

However, are there any other ways?

It's troublesome.

Agriculture, cuisine, trading, transportation, etc., it's not like I have special knowledge of things useful in this world.

Developing something based on modern knowledge, I don't know if it would work or not.

In the past, I read the biography of James Watt.

Speaking of business, he seems to have been successful but through suing for patent infringement against his rivals.

I don't think there's something like the concept of patents in this world.

Assuming there's potential, should I make Roxanne a midwife?

I think the work of midwives is mostly done by females.

When delivering a baby, one would disinfect their hands with lime water.

Scissors and other tools would be disinfected with boiling water.

The sheets and towels can be hung up and disinfected by the sunlight.

This way, you can reduce the rate of deaths from postpartum infections by a large margin.

The day would be close when miscarriage gynecology becomes standard medical care in this world.

But as a practical question, it's not very realistic.

First, it would be difficult for Roxanne to be a midwife.

Midwives for humans, wolf people, elves, and dwarves might be different.

The rate of postpartum infections might be different even if you could help different species.

Here, does a midwife need to wash their hands in water boiled with medicinal herbs before the delivery of the baby, or some other existing custom? This one is out.

Besides a midwife, maybe form a musical band with Roxanne playing a musical instrument or singing.

It would be good if I can turn some famous music from the modern world into hits in this world.

Trendy music, oldies, children's songs, pop, classics, etc. that I've listened to amount to 100 to 200 pieces. Probably I wouldn't have any problems for a lifetime here.

But, it would be difficult since I can't read sheet music or play a musical instrument.

It would be shameful to rely completely on Roxanne.

Since I learned that I can change the jobs of party members, in the worst case, that would become my work.

It's really the worst case, but...

If I work on changing jobs though, I would be revealing some of my abilities.

There would be people approaching me, aiming for the ability, and I fear I'd be dragged into trouble.

If possible, for my safety, let's abandon that.

After all, isn't getting income from the labyrinth the steadiest so far? That's what my abilities are for anyways.

There are benefits to it.

I can raise levels in the labyrinth, and getting new jobs could turn out to be useful in any case.

Labyrinths aren't especially dangerous.

After thinking about it, according to experience, it's worthy of consideration.

However, going down as soon as possible. No, I mean going up. If one thinks about it, at present it isn't so dangerous.

It's ok if I carefully raise my level while going up the floors.

If one is so inclined, it's ok to stay in the lower floors.

In a single day, the income is a few thousand Nars. It won't be difficult to make a living.

"That's for the future, enough about that. Now, about a place to live, other than living in a hotel, could it be cheaper to rent a room somewhere?"

While murmuring my thoughts, I asked Roxanne.

"That is so. I don't know in detail, but if it is renting a room, a 1 year contract is 10,000 to 30,000 Nars. I think you can get a single house for 50,000 Nars."

"I see."

I don't know if that is cheap or expensive, but it's cheaper than living at the inn.

The hotel charges are 250 Nars a day. Multiplied by 365 days, it's over 90,000 Nars. [5]

If we increase the number of party members, that will jump up.

"I'll do the cleaning and other chores."

"Ah, that's right. I'll be troubling Roxanne"

"No, it's no problem."

Living in a hotel, the chores and cleaning are left for the employees to do.

Because Roxanne is a slave and a maid, she can be burdened with that. Of course I'll do my part, but without vacuum cleaners, water service, or washing machines, in this world it's going to be a time consuming labor.

"Hey Roxanne, can you cook?"

"Yes, I think I can do some dishes."

A slave, a maid, and a cook.

"Now that you mention it, it seems a master is responsible for providing food and living space to a slave but, putting the inn aside, is it ok to rent a house?"

"Yes. Of course."

"Even sharing a bed?"

I try to embrace her while lowering my voice.

"Y...yes. In fact, I'd be grateful."

That's what she said.

Was I being a bit mean?

It would seem she was thinking I'd make her sleep on the floor. Well, that was how I should have answered.

While embracing her, I touch her soft and plentiful bouncy chest. Those bulges under the clothes with no bra.

Oh no.

At this rate I'll push her down onto the bed. I said I'd refrain from doing it for the time being.

Why did I say that thing.

"How many days in a year?"

"Let's see. 360 days and a few more."

There's no helping it, I keep questioning.

According to Roxanne's explanation, with one year having four seasons; spring, summer, autumn and winter have 90 days each. Looks like there are one or two days off between each season.

If it's one day or two days, it appears to be a leap year.

Thereupon, one year with 363, 364 days plus a few days, it's almost the same as Earth.

Did we just enter spring?

There's no way to know an exact date.

If a year has 365 days, of course renting a place is better.

"If I'm renting a place, where should I rent it?"

"I think it should be okay to rent one in a somewhat big town."

"I see."

I guess villages and such would be wary of outsiders.

"However, in the case of Explorers, I heard a lot of them live in Quratar and the imperial capital."

"Quratar? I think I've heard about it."

"There's a big labyrinth in Quratar. I've gone into it once. An Explorer companion had a shop there so it was convenient. In Master's case, since you can use magic, I think any place is good to live."

I think by magic she meant [Warp].

If considering using Warp to go to a labyrinth, certainly there's no problem living anywhere.

"But remember one thing. I don't want it to be found out that I can use magic. I think we should live in a place where it's common for Explorers to live."

Because it has a labyrinth, an Explorer living in Quratar isn't going to be strange.

Should we pay it a visit?

I have 5 gold coins left. If it's 50,000 Nars, I can afford it.

It doesn't seem the [30% Discount] will activate.

If it's a 2 year contract, it might work.

Until we save up 100,000 Nars, we should look around.

But, without knowing future circumstances, taking a 2 year contract is a big risk.

It isn't a sure thing that the [30% Discount] would work with a 2 year one anyways.

Perhaps, we should sign a 1 year contract.

That. However, do taxes exist?

"Come to think of it, I haven't heard anything about taxes. How do you pay them?"

"...Ah, well. T-Taxes..."

Roxanne replied with difficulty.

"Did I ask something bad?"

"I'm sorry. There's no problem. After both my parents died, I became a burden to my aunt's household. This year they weren't able to pay their family's taxes..."

"Is that so?"

It seems Roxanne was sold off because they weren't able to provide their taxes.

I thought it was only a thing in historical period dramas, but they do sell their daughters if they can't pay their annual tax.

I pat Roxanne's head.

Slowly, I pat her to reassure her.

"The tax is a poll tax. It's paid in the winter of every year to the feudal lord. Master is a free man so it is 100,000 Nars. Slaves are 10,000 Nars. I think probably someone already paid Master's portion for this year." [6]

"I see."

I believe it hasn't been paid though.

I'm glad she explained it willingly.

The tax for us two is 110,000 Nars?

Right now it just entered the spring season. There's still time.

There shouldn't be any problems.

While patting Roxanne's head, I pull her closer.

"Umm. Well. I think I'm fortunate to be able to serve Master like this."

Roxanne leans on my shoulder.

Notes:

[1] TL Note: the wooden man or 木人 is either referring to the wooden dummies used for martial arts training:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mu_ren_zhuang or the character Mokujin from Tekken which is an animated human shaped wooden dummy

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mokujin>

[2] ED Note: FINISH HIM!

[3] TL Note: You guys are not the only ones realizing how Roxanne keeps saying Michio is amazing time and time again.

[4] TL Note: Isobeyaki is a fried mochi rice cake wrapped in nori seaweed. But, also Isobeyaki can mean seashore/beach side grill.

[5] Vegeta: !!!

[6] TL Note: A Poll Tax, also known as a Head Tax in the U.S.
http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Tax_per_head

Panda's note: God damn.....he gets to play with those ears.....anyone else jelly?

Chapter 36 : Magic Crystal

*

Later on I asked Roxanne things about the Labyrinth.

The Labyrinth is believed to be a creature.

What!?

The Labyrinths aren't everywhere, they're just in various places.

“So it's like the larvae inside the Antlion?”

“Antlion?”

“Ah, don't worry about it.”

The Labyrinth lures in humans instead of ants.

The human is digested and absorbed by the demon for it to live.

Then it multiplies.

The Labyrinth is an area that the Labyrinth creature produced with magic.

You won't find it even if you dig into the ground near the Labyrinths entrance.

Is that why the levels go up instead of down?

If you go to the top floor of the Labyrinth and defeat the boss, you will kill the Labyrinth.

Exterminating a Labyrinth near where people live is the Lord's responsibility.

“Also, if you defeat a Labyrinth in an area without people, you can become the Lord of that region.”

Roxanne explains it with enthusiasm.

“Thank you, I understand.”

“You're welcome.”

It seems I need to be taught a lot.

I return my thoughts to getting back to the room.

I pull out a leaf from the item box.

“Roxanne, the rucksack is ready.”

“Is an antidote the only thing you can use a leaf for?”

I was curious.

“What? That’s right. That’s what I’ve heard. After you sell it to the guild they will distribute them to the pharmacists & herbalists to be turned into antidotes.”

“I thought so.”

I place the leaf in the palm of my hand, and raise it towards Roxanne. I used [Herbal medicine generation]. Ten antidotes appeared and spilled out of my hand.

“What? This.... This is.... amazing.”

Roxanne looks at me with respect. I like to show off. Surprises one by one.

“This is a secret.”

“Yes... Master is amazing.”

It’s not that big of a deal if I reveal the secret. This is possible for Roxanne as well if I change her job. Roxanne looks captivated.

After the antidote is made I put 59 of them in Roxanne’s rucksack. One piece is placed in the item box. There is already 26 of them in there, but the space has increased by one.

“Are there a lot of demons that use poison?”

“Yes, I have heard there is a considerable amount.”

“So antidote is a requirement?”

“Only if the demon manages to hit you.”

I’m extremely thankful for Roxanne. They’ll probably be needed soon.

After making the antidote, we went to the explorers guild. We bought the Magic Crystal that Roxanne had told me about.

“Lets make it two Magic Crystals.”

“Would you like the black Magic Crystal?”

Roxanne? You didn't tell me about this.

“Um, I want to use it to collect magic.”

“Then it's the black Magic Crystal. Please wait a moment.”

After selling the antidotes from her rucksack, Roxanne went over to the notice board.

She's reading intently.

Being able to read would be convenient.

I bought two black magic crystals for 20 nars.

It seems the 30% discount still isn't working with the explorers guild staff.

I exchanged 10 copper coins for each magic crystal.

Magic crystals are small stones, about the size of a chicken egg. As the name black magic crystal indicates, the color is black.

I don't think I've seen any in the Labyrinth.

With the small size I may have overlooked them.

[Judgement] works on them though.

The name of the crystal is black crystal, not black magic crystal.

“What is the higher level ointment of nourishment?”

“Nourishment medicine.”

“How much is it?”

“600 nars for one.”

The price suddenly got rather high.

“And the level after that?”

“Nourishment tablets.”

“How much is that?”

“It's 6,000 nars each.”

It increased by ten times.

It's a price that I somewhat expected, and I bought two nourishment medicines and a tablet.

Let's hope we don't take any major injuries.

"It seems to be a black magic crystal."

I go over to Roxanne and show her the crystal.

"Magic crystals change color according to the amount of magic they contain. When you defeat ten demons it will become red. It will become purple after 100, blue after 1,000, green after 10,000, yellow after 100,000 and white with 1,000,000."

So the color changes?

"It's a black magic crystal because there is no magic in it?"

"Yes, and the price changes according to the color. As soon as the color changes you'll get the higher price. There aren't many who work on them until they become white though, most will sell them off when they are yellow or green."

So the price won't change for a purple crystal with 100 monsters worth of magic compared to a purple crystal with 900 monsters worth of magic. So I have to defeat 100,000 demons to make it yellow, and a million to make it white.

If I defeat 100 per day then it will take around three years to make it yellow, and 30 years to make it white.

As Roxanne says, there won't be many chances to sell them in a lifetime.

"I understand, so shall we go to the Labyrinth?"

We left the guild.

Even though we spoke a lot in the inn, not much of the day has passed, it's still morning.

In the bright sunlight, I walk while often looking back over my shoulder.

I'm looking at Roxanne's breasts.

She follows along behind me and they jiggle with every step.

It's not easy to see though, since she is wearing the Leather Jacket.

They are shaking.

Even though I didn't notice it in the dim light of the Labyrinth.

It definitely isn't an illusion.

The shoulder strap from the ruck sack appears to be digging in at the side.

Like tied up large, sweet fruit.

Very distracting on the eyes.

When Roxanne notices my eyes, she smiles.

I've been discovered.

All the respect I had managed to build up from things like making antidotes has been ruined.

After being found out, I continue hurrying to the Labyrinth.

Even though I could watch the jiggle if I walked beside her, having a man and woman walk side by side on this world doesn't appear to happen.

My body also hides the shaking of Roxanne's chest from other men's eyes.

"The first floor seems to be rather crowded."

As soon as we enter the Labyrinth, Roxanne checks out the surrounding area with her sense of smell.

She doesn't even need to look.

"It's crowded?"

"Yes, there's a search end declaration out stating that the exploration of the first floor has been completed."

I don't understand it well, but is it a notice from the explorer's guild? So a lot of people have heard about it?

"Should we move on?"

"Yes, I've been as far as the third floor. I can fight monsters on that floor."

"Let's try the second floor."

We head into the black wall, and come out on the second floor.

"The second floor doesn't seem very crowded, there's a demon to our right."

"Is that right. Do we just need to keep the magic crystal in our possession?"

I pull a magic crystal from the item box and pass it to Roxanne.

“Yes, it’s fine to keep it in the rucksack. Magic won’t be collected if it’s kept in the item box though.”

The rucksack is lowered and the black magic crystal is placed inside. We prepared our equipment and went into the right cave.

“I’ll try to defeat the demon with magic. Don’t dash ahead without permission.”

“Okay.”

“What is the search end declaration?”

After giving Roxanne a warning, I questioned her.

“It’s a declaration that all searches of the first floor have been completed.”

“And the amount of people here increase when the search ends?”

“Until the search ends, there might be some rooms with large quantities of demons.”

Ah, there was a room like that.

There was a room with at least ten Needle Woods in it on the first floor and it was a difficult fight.

“That doesn’t happen after the search ends?”

“When the search ends, it means rooms like those have been searched.”

“When a demon appears in a place like this, after a little while it will start traveling around. But when a demon appears in one of those rooms it’s just stuck there, so after a while the amount of demons in the room start to build up.”

Roxanne explains it since I look doubtful.

Is that how the demon room happened?

“So now that the exploration is done, that won’t happen anymore?”

“Mostly, but if people don’t go there for many days the demons will still build up. That kind of room is an extremely dangerous trap.”

Even though that kind of room is appealing now that I know AoE attack magic it seems the chance of finding one will be less.

There’s still a chance if I continue climbing the floors though.

Was my luck good or bad finding one before I could use magic?

“I see, and that’s why the people have increased.”

“There’s a demon.”

Roxanne interrupts me with a warning.

A demon appears in front of us.

Needle Wood Lv2.

I launched a fireball that was powered up by me placing 99 points into intellect.

The demon was not defeated in a single blow however.

The second one is fired and the demon is defeated.

The demons seem to get alot stronger as their level increases.

Roxanne takes the branch and puts it in the rucksack.

The color of the magic crystal is still black.

Next I am testing the magic crystal.

In the bonus skills there is a crystallization upgrade.

Even though I didn’t know what it meant before, I now think it’s about the crystallization of magic.

I open the character settings and tick crystallization upgrade.

The skill becomes 4x increase.

I remove the bonus points from intellect and put them in crystallization upgrade.

The skill goes to 8x, then 16x, then 32x, and stops at 64x increase in crystallization.

Next, I defeated another Needle Wood Lv2. It still took two shots of magic so the benefit from increased intellect can’t be noticed here.

I check the Magic crystal.

It’s become a redish color.

This is a red magic crystal?

Another one is defeated and I check it again.

The color is now purpleish.

“When you defeat 100 it becomes purple?”

If two were defeated with the 64x increase, it becomes 128 kills.
The skill seems to be working.

“Roxanne, look at this?”

The purple magic crystal is take from the rucksack without waiting for an answer.

It will be seen at some stage anyway.

I want to recover my lost respect.

“What? Ah? ...What!?”

“Mm, this is a secret.”

“Um, yes.... Master is amazing.”

After briefly showing Roxanne, I place it back in the rucksack.
I'm a bit surprised to.

Secretly cheating seems bad, but Roxanne doesn't seem to mind.

“Do you know how much magic crystals sell for?”

“Green is 10,000 nars, and yellow is 100,000 nars.”

So if you need to hunt 10,000 demons for it to become green, then it's one nar per demon?

So 64x is 64 nars? The income efficiency is better than the dropped items.

So if I want to earn money I put points in crystallization, if I want to become stronger I put points in experience, and if I want to fight something tough I put points in Durandal.

Things are going well.

“That's will do for that experiment, though there are more to do.”

I declared to Roxanne.

“What experiments will be done?”

“There will be various ones with Roxannes help.”

In the party setting I switch Roxannes job to Monk.
I also set it to one of my jobs.

Kaga Michio. 17 year old male. Explorer Lv27, Hero Lv24, Wizard Lv26,

Merchant Lv22, Monk Lv1.

Equipment: Wand, Leather Shoes, Leather hat, Leather armor.

Roxanne. 16 year old female. Monk Lv1.

Equipment: Scimitar, Shield, Leather Hat, Leather Jacket, Sandals, Mittens.

There's been numerous times I was injured, but now Roxanne and I both have the Monk job.

With this I can test how experience works.

Is my share of the experience divided between each of my jobs? If I compare Roxanne's Monk level to my own I can get a better understanding.

I'm not using my skill to decrease required experience til next level, and I've put the increased experience skill to 20X.

If I level up first, then the increased experience skill only works for me.

If Roxanne and I level up at the same time then we get the same experience.

If Roxanne levels up first then my experience is divided between my jobs.

Lets see how we go.

"Do you feel any changes to your body?"

"No, not really."

When I removed the Hero job I didn't notice my body feeling heavier. It doesn't seem like something you can be aware of.

"I would have liked to do this on the first floor, but I guess we'll have to do it here. There might be some danger so please do not fight anything until the experiment is over."

"It will be dangerous?"

"Well, the experiment won't be dangerous, but it may hinder your fighting ability a bit."

I don't really understand the difference between Beast Warrior Lv6 and Monk Lv1 so it's best to be cautious.

"Did you do an experiment like this already? Was I not supposed to

fight?”

“No, but I might get you to try fighting later.”

What happens when I change Roxannes job isn't the aim of this experiment.

If I test that it's best to do it on the first floor.

I don't think she'll be defeated in a single blow just because she's Monk Lv1, but it's best not to even try it.

After that I hunted some demons.

The increase in level happened at the same time for both of us.

The increased experience skill must work for the whole party.

Perhaps it isn't divided between my jobs either.

There's always the possibility that it's divided six ways though, between my five jobs and Roxanne's single job.

Next is testing out the skill to decrease required experience.

Only my Monk job increased to Lv3 quickly.

Well, that's how it is.

We had to hunt 20 demons to get up to Lv2.

After decreasing required experience to 1/10th I was able to increase my level with three kills.

Since Roxanne's level did not go up, it seems that the skill does not work for her.

At the moment my bonus points when I'm not using Durandal are like this:

31 points in decreasing required experience to 1/10th.

31 points in increasing acquired experience to 10X.

31 points in increasing magic crystallization to 32X.

15 points to get to the fifth job.

7 points to get 3X MP recovery speed.

3 points in incantation omission.

3 points in party job settings.

1 point each for Warp, Judgement, Party Job Settings, and Character reset.

Chapter 37 : Quratar

*

“About the groups of three monsters appearing, do they start from the 3rd floor?”

“No. I heard it starts from the 4th floor.”

“Then on the 4th floor, groups of four don’t appear.”

“Seems groups of four start from the 8th floor.”

After confirming Roxanne’s battle style on the 2nd and 3rd floor, we transfer to the 4th floor.

I ask Roxanne after I cast three spells at a group of two Minos and one Kobold that came first.

I confirm that [Fire Storm] only works against monsters.

“If that’s the case, then from the 16th floor, there are groups of five?”

“You understand it very well. That’s right.”

I got admired in an unusual way.

It seems that if groups of two come out on the 2nd floor, three on the 4th floor, and four on the 8th floor, then it is groups of 5 on the 16th floor.

With Roxanne guiding, next it is a group of one Mino and a Kobold. First, the Kobold is reduced to ashes by [Fire Ball].

“Roxanne, take care of the Mino.”

For confirmation, I send Roxanne forward.

Roxanne, on the 2nd and 3rd Floor, was able to handle the Needle Wood Lv2 and Lv3 without any problems.

How well can she fight against a Mino Lv4 that looks like a compacted cow?

Roxanne dashes with her scimitar.

A light attack from the front. The swung horn attack is easily avoided. Again, after an additional attack, she nimbly dodges the Mino’s attack.

What kind of bullfighter are you?!

She seems to be flawless against a single opponent on the 4th floor.

While Roxanne is facing the monster, I prepare Durandal.
I move towards the open left side and strike the Mino's flank.
I defeat the Mino and recover my MP.

"Looks like there are no problems with the 4th floor."
"However, the numbers. Will it be alright with three monsters?"
"Let's see. Two enemies, there's no problem at all. If we are surrounded by three, possibly we might suffer some attacks."

I feel that such thoughts are returning.
I'd panic if I was surrounded by three Minos.

"Aren't the horns scary?"
"Once you observe them there's no problem."
"Y-you dodged them very well."
"When the horn is swung and goes SWOOSH, it'll be alright if I pull my body like BAM and avoid it like WOOSH."
"..Understood."

Roxanne is the type of person who can't teach.
Like one of those genius types.

"In the first place, even if it puts all its strength into the horns on its head and charges, once it starts moving, it'll be greatly visible and you'll know what its intentions are in an instant. It's like it's telling you to avoid it."

And that's Roxanne's story.
Just by hearing those words, I think I can do it too.

No, no. I can't be fooled.
The only one capable of such a feat is Roxanne.

Well, it's no use worrying about future things.
On the fourth floor, battles can be settled within three spell casts, so there's no problem.
If we go up, the vanguard must face three monsters in the time it takes magic to be cast.
Because Roxanne said that she can take up to two enemies without problems, I have to give it my best against one.

After hunting for a while in the 4th floor, we return to the wall in the Adventurer's Guild.

It's not good, shutting oneself in the labyrinth.

No matter what, you get a lot of mental strain in the labyrinth.

A suitable change of mood is needed.

When we finished hunting, the color of the magic crystal had turned blue.

Roxanne's magic crystal turned purple.

It seems you don't gather magic power if you don't deal the finishing blow to the monster.

It didn't turn purple while Roxanne was carrying it but after I borrowed it.

Couldn't that mean if I'm carrying several magic crystals, these several magic crystals will be equally collecting magic power?

According to Roxanne, of course such a sweet deal couldn't exist. Although, maybe it's different when using the [Crystallization Acceleration] skill.

To test that, I tried putting the two magic crystals in the rucksack.

The black magic crystal I borrowed from Roxanne turned purple after defeating nine monsters.

I had defeated two monsters using Durandal while the [Crystallization Acceleration] skill wasn't active.

The magic power obtained was 9 monsters x 32 multiplier + 2 monsters.

[1]

Since to turn a magic crystal purple you need the magic power from at least 100 monsters, it's okay to think that when carrying two magic crystals, the magic power will clearly be divided in two.

As expected, it seemed too good to be true.

When I returned the purple magic crystal, Roxanne was surprised that without even killing 10 monsters it turned into a purple magic crystal that needed at least 100 monsters defeated.

Because I told Roxanne that Kobolds aren't good prey, we didn't fight many Kobolds.

Roxanne is really helpful.

The Adventurer's Guild feels like it was more crowded than usual. Could it be because of the Search End Declaration? People are lined up at the purchase counter.

The people that came to sell place 4-5 branches and a leaf on the tray. Certainly, people have been giving it their all in the first floor since the search ended.

Though the numbers are low.

“Leaves aren't something we can buy.”

Roxanne says in a low voice.

With leaves costing 80 nars, even if I buy them at double the cost and without [30% Discount], selling 10 antidote pills with [30% Sale Price Increase], each leaf leaves a 165 nars profit. [2]

“The Guild has the advantage on transactions with leaves. I think it's better that we give up on it.”

Roxanne, as before, replies in a low voice.

Indeed. If we trespass on the Guild's interests and are targeted, we don't know what kind of retaliation they'd resort to. I'll stop pursuing this method to get income.

It was in a very low voice; nobody should have heard it. Even so, today is very crowded. From the Guild's wall too, various parties are turning up.

Again, somebody comes out.

This time, a group of two people.

“Quratar, one way trip, anyone need?” [3]

The first guy that comes out announces that.

Uh-oh. Is that an Adventurer that came from Quratar? This is convenient.

I cast [Party Formation] and remove Roxanne from the party.

“I'll go and be back in a bit.”

“Yes.”

Seems Roxanne soon understood the meaning of that. Maybe she was simply obeying her master's orders, but her eyes looks like she understood.

I think she probably understood.

It would be good if she doesn't do something like running away while I'm not here.

Well, if she disappeared while I wasn't watching for a short time it would mean she already ran away.

It would mean we must be together around the clock.

I pay a silver coin and I'm taken to Quratar. I confirm the sun's position and return soon after.

Roxanne is... there. She really stayed.

“I'm back. Want to go visit Quratar?”
“Yes. I'll accompany you.”

The party is formed, and after confirming the sun's position in Vale town, we warp to the Adventurer's Guild in Quratar.

The time in Vale is before 3 o'clock in the afternoon, so around a bit after 2 o'clock?

There's about 3 hours before dusk, so there's time to spare.

Quratar is in the middle of the day too, but I don't know the direction or longitude, so the time difference is unknown.

The Adventurer's Guild in Quratar is slightly larger than the one in Vale.

It still can't be compared to the Adventurer's Guild in the Imperial Capital.

There are only three purchase counters.

It's bigger than the Adventurer's Guild in Vale, but from what I'd heard, I thought it was much bigger than this.

“Umm. Is that it?”

“Because in Quratar, the labyrinth and Explorers are in the center of town, the Explorer’s Guild is substantially bigger.”

Roxanne explains to me.

That’s probably because I unintentionally muttered that while leaving the Adventurer’s Guild.

“Is that so? Have you come here before?”

“Yes. I came here to inspect the labyrinth once. There are many labyrinths I want to enter at least once.”

“Well then, do you want to visit it again?”

“Certainly! It’s over there.”

Roxanne points without any hesitation.

“Do you know which way north is?”

“I’m sorry. I don’t know.”

“Still, you know which direction the labyrinth is in!”

Ah. The smell?

“In the town of Quratar, the labyrinth is located in the center. In the towns with a labyrinth at the center, the streets radiate and extend out from there.”

Seems it wasn’t the smell.

If one looks at it, towards one direction of the street the buildings gradually become sparser.

In the other direction, the buildings get more crowded.

I see. Is that way the center of town?

We start walking towards the center of town.

Even so, the townscape of Quratar is still smaller than the Capital’s. It’s more prosperous than Vale town. It could be compared to that degree.

Nearing downtown, many stores do business with an open storefront on the 1st floor.

There are fish markets and bakeries, and over there is a hardware store.

After coming to this world, it’s the first time I’ve seen stores, other than

some street stalls.

Especially the nondescript ordinary stores.

It could be said that the stores don't have really complex shapes.

Beyond the hardware store where the street intersects, there is a roundabout and at the center, there is a thick hill.

It is the entrance to the labyrinth.

From the town center, many streets stretch out; there are shops lining both sides of every street.

“Is that the labyrinth?”

“That's right. The Knight's Order station is built across the street in front of the entrance. The big building on the opposite side of the entrance is the Explorer's Guild.”

I can see a bit of the right side of the labyrinth's entrance, the black wall.

Opposite there, across two streets extending from the center, a 5-6 story building is standing.

A red-brown brickwork building boasting a majestic look.

Indeed, the Explorer's Guild is pretty substantial.

From the open doors on the first floor, many people are going in and out. Also, at the Knight's Order station, many people are standing in line.

“Why are they queued there?”

“To enter Quratar's labyrinth one has to pay at the entrance. 100 nars per person each time.”

They require an entrance fee?

It looks like it's a tourist attraction.

“If there's an entrance fee, it would be better to enter once we have more time. Do you know the best way to rent a house?”

“There are managers. We could ask in a shop somewhere about it.”

“Hmmm.”

Lets look in this hardware store or something.

I pull Roxanne's arm and enter the hardware store.

“But, Master.”

“Umm?”

“Wouldn’t it be okay if we entered with Master’s magic?”

She tells me in a whisper.

I see.

Since I can use [Warp] to enter directly into the labyrinth, after only entering once, we won’t need to pay the fee every time.

Echigoya, you too are evil! [4]

I want to unwrap your sash, round and round. [5]

We enter the hardware store.

Saucepans, scissors, hoes, shovels, and other unknown things made out of metal are on display.

There are padlocks too.

Weapons belong in a weapons store. Hoes and shovels seem to be considered farming tools.

“Welcome.”

The one who comes out is a middle-aged aunty.

37 years old, Merchant Lv44.

I feel her level is questionably high.

“We’re searching for a place to live in the area, do you know where I can fi-”

“You’ve found her. I’m the manager for the 6th district.”

Before I finish asking, she answers.

This is the manager? We’re lucky.

“6th district?”

“This town is divided by the streets that stretch out from the center. The area where the Explorer’s Guild is located is the 1st district. Followed counterclockwise by the 2nd, 3rd and this would be the 6th district.”

“I see.”

Each district has a prominent location facing the labyrinth.

Because this shop is the most prominent place in the 6th district, she’s

probably very competent if she became a manager.

“Are you an Explorer?”

“That’s right.”

“What kind of property are you looking for?”

I’m stumped after hearing that.

“On the contrary, I’d like you to show us what kind of properties there are. We’re looking to rent one for around 40,000 nars a year, besides that we don’t have any other conditions.”

“You two will be living there?”

“Currently that’s the case, but later on...”

“Indeed. You’re an Explorer after all.”

Without saying everything, the aunty takes over. She seems like a person that loves to talk. An Explorer entering labyrinths would form a party of up to six members. I guess there are many Explorers that live together with their party members.

The aunty looks towards Roxanne for a bit. Next, she looks at my face, grinning unpleasantly.

Seems like she realizes Roxanne is a slave.

And again, she stares at Roxanne like she’s using [Appraisal].

I don’t know how she realized Roxanne is a slave, but that face looks like someone that knows.

As one would expect from someone called a manager.

Or, like the slave trader told me, probably there are many people that make parties with slaves to enter the labyrinths.

“...Err.”

“You have a good girl here. Is it alright to be near the labyrinth?”

Being stared at, Roxanne wants to say something. The aunty leaves her alone and talks to me.

“I’m not being particularly picky.”

I guess the rent will be high being closer to the labyrinth.

Being close to the labyrinth, it is also close to downtown.

But in my case, I can just use [Warp] to go to the labyrinth. Even if I have something to do in the business district downtown, it would be enough to come out the wall in the Adventurer's Guild. There's no reason to be living near the labyrinth. Rather, I think that because being far from the labyrinth the rent would be cheaper, it would be better to live farther.

"If it isn't for an Adventurer, there's a house with the right value, what do you think?"

"It isn't good for an Adventurer?"

"The previous resident covered it all in shielding cement, it's difficult to use."

I don't understand the meaning.

"Because shielding cement was used, one can't travel with [Field Walk]. It would be hard for an Adventurer."

Roxanne, getting a glimpse of me looking like I need help, covers for me.

Roxanne is seriously helpful.

Furthermore, to hide the fact that I didn't know what shielding cement was, she nonchalantly covered it up.

I see.

An Adventurer would be living further away from the labyrinth.

It's fine to travel using [Field Walk]. There's no special reason to be living somewhere with an expensive rent.

But since it's covered in shielding cement, that house would be useless.

"Will you show it to us?"

There's no other way than to test if [Warp] works or not.

"Understood. I'll make the arrangements."

The Aunty goes back into the store again.

She reappears after a while and we depart via another street in the direction of the Adventurer's Guild.

It might be hasty to rent a house.
Because I need to learn more after coming to this world, or it'd be better to think more seriously about things from now on.
Concerning earthquakes, volcanoes, tropical cyclones, and other such natural disasters, I might need to investigate. [6]

“How's the climate around here?”
“It's good! Summers are cool and it almost never snows in winter.”
“How much does it rain?”

Roxanne is asking for information from the Aunty, but that amount is not enough.

However, at any rate, I don't have many choices.
At the moment, Quratar and the Imperial Capital are our two options.
There might be other places we can live without any problems, but it'd be more economical to rent right away than to spend many months researching and pondering.
If this turns out to be a very bad place, I won't feel regret if we find a better town somewhere else.

The manager aunty guides us as we continue down the street.
In the town of Quratar, tall buildings are only built in the downtown area; once we go farther away, it becomes the residential area.
Two-story buildings are side by side with some degree of separation.
It feels like the outskirts of some countryside.

Progressing further, it becomes more vacant lands and fields than houses. A man there, for some reason, greets the aunty.

40 years old, a Villager Lv53?

I've never seen such a high level villager.
I feel like he's fearlessly strong. Is he really strong or am I being deceived by my own level?

“That was my husband just now.”

She informs us after she exchanges a few words with him and leaves.

“He looks like an extremely strong person!”

“There isn’t a rampart in this town, is it? Since this town was built around the Labyrinth, a rampart is meaningless. Monsters can appear anywhere in town, although they’re weak. People afraid of monsters don’t live in this town. My husband and I try to enter the labyrinth three days at a time.”

According to Roxanne, monsters not only appear inside the labyrinth, but also in its vicinity.

Like the Slow Rabbit in the forest behind the first village, or the Gummy Slime that appeared while traveling in the carriage.

Towns are surrounded by ramparts so that such monsters won’t attack. Because there’s a labyrinth right in the center of Quratar, it’s probably useless to surround the town with a rampart.

If you think about it, it’s a terrifying town.

Living in such a town, this couple seems to have tempered themselves. The result of that is a Villager Lv53.

I’m alright because I can pull out Durandal anyways, but is Roxanne gonna be ok?

“Aren’t there any problems if monsters appear in the town?”

“There aren’t any problems.”

It was a foolish question.

“My husband works as a blacksmith in that shed over there. I handle the goods my husband produces.”

“Blacksmith?”

“Yes.”

“Is he a Master Smith?”

If he’s a Master Smith, maybe he can tell me the job’s acquisition method.

“A Master Smith is a job only Dwarves can obtain.”

“Is it different?”

“Inside the shed with a small smelting furnace he cast commodities. This has no relation to race. It’s something anyone can do given the techniques. Master Smith is a job in which, by means of magic skills,

weapons and armor are produced, and only dwarves can become one.”

“I see.”

Somehow I don't understand, but it seems Master Smith and Blacksmith are different things.

If you think about it, he is only a Villager Lv53.

That means one size fits all equipment is manufactured with skills?

Unfortunately, it seems impossible to obtain the Master Smith job to do smithing.

“Well, it's over there.”

Progressing a bit further, we enter a narrow alley and then the aunty points towards a white house.

Notes:

[1] TL Note: That is 290 total

[2] TL Note: Read chapter 23 for the same calculations. For the maths: Antidote = 100 nars market price or 25 nars sale price. Leaf = 160 nars market price or 80 nars sale price. Antidote 10×25 nars = 250 nars + 30% sale price increase = 325 nars. 325 nars - 160 nars for cost of a leaf at market price = 165 nars profit.

[3] ED Note: WTS Quratar TP 1way 100nar PM

[4] TL Note: 越後屋、おぬしも悪よのう。 “Echigoya, you too are evil!” is a line in one of many Japanese historical plays about an evil magistrate. The line is when he's conspiring in his residence with an evil merchant. The magistrate says “Echigoya, you too are evil!” and the merchant responds “But not to the same degree as Mr. Magistrate”. Evil laughs ensue. Here are some YouTube videos of parodies or recreations of that scene: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Leh8uyTytd0>
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=k6tUrzJftOk>

[5] TL Note: And one of the things that evil magistrate likes to do is undressing girls in kimonos by pulling their Obi (sash). Here's a video of such a scene from a PS2 game: https://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_detailpage&v=1pRGRcYTo6c#t=763 @ around 12 mins in.

[6] TL Note: tropical cyclone is the general term, but they're called hurricanes, typhoons, etc., depending on where they are formed here on Earth.

Chapter 38 : House

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The manager aunty shows Roxanne and me the house that's being recommended as our living place.

A two story white house covered in mortar. It feels like an ordinary house one can notice around this area and even in Vale town.

And yet, is it the sad nature of Japanese people that makes this feels so wonderfully big?

There is one thing that's improved in this world compared to today's Japan.

Although out of town, there are forests and plots of land just the same. That one thing is my precious dog ears. [O]

“The wooden windows have been restored. In the current condition, you can move in as soon as you bring in furniture.”

The aunty opens the lock. Inside the house, a cold naked concrete room is spread out.

As expected, it is big. From a typical Japanese sense, one could already call this a mansion.

“Ohhh.”
“The previous resident made many modifications, so there's no problem if you do any kind of interior remodeling. One special modification performed is a flushing toilet.”

The aunty steadily moves forward inside the room and then opens an inner room's door.

Over in that small room there is a toilet.

“Flushing toilet?”
“You put water in the vessel above and it'll wash it out the drain. The drain draws water from the nearby river. Here we're upstream so it's pretty clean.”

The bathroom has a toilet seat directly connected to the drain opening.

[1]

If water is put into the upper tank, it seems the force is enough to wash it away.

Flushing is preposterous, but it's still better than directly leaving the human waste in the porcelain. [2]

"I see."

"Even if it's put here, it's still inconvenient. It's a hobby of the previous resident. A second one was being put in the second floor, but it was stopped."

"There's a toilet on the 2nd floor too?"

"It was stopped, thus only the drainage is connected in the 2nd floor."

The room next to the bathroom has a sink and a counter; looking at it, it seems to be the kitchen.

Roxanne is questioning the aunty.

"Then, let's look at the 2nd floor for a bit."

Fortunately, the manager aunty gets a hold of Roxanne and goes up to the 2nd floor.

I must test [Warp].

Once they go upstairs, I still know where Roxanne is.

Is this one of the party effects?

As a precaution, I remove Roxanne from the party. Visualizing the adjacent room, I face the wall and cast [Warp].

For travel, a Party is a single unit, so I don't know what happens when Roxanne isn't around.

A black wall appears in front of my eyes.

I try going through.

I perfectly come out the next room.

It is a success.

It seems [Field Walk] won't work, but [Warp] still does.

[Warp] has really good utility as it can also transfer directly into the labyrinth.

However, the things I have to worry about increases by one. It's better to avoid transferring just anywhere with [Warp]. It'd be disaster if one transfers to a place where [Field Walk] or [Dungeon Walk] aren't supposed to work.

I should only transfer to places where I've confirmed [Field Walk] or [Dungeon Walk] can get through. I haven't transferred to many places besides the Adventurer's Guild's inner wall or the small rooms inside the labyrinth. It hasn't changed much even now.

The cave where the thieves were sleeping carefree just before I gathered the funds to purchase Roxanne, perhaps it possibly was covered with shielding cement. Those driven-out thieves, without keeping watch late night and early morning, everyone was able to sleep without any care. Because it was a place where [Field Walk] couldn't be used, were they relieved by the fact that nobody would come in?

After looking around the 2nd floor in a way that doesn't seem unnatural, they come down the 1st floor.

“What do you think? Besides the flaws in this house, the water well is far so you'll need to travel a distance to draw water. Nevertheless, there shouldn't be any problems.” [3]

I am approached by the aunty who came down. Finally, she fleetingly looks in Roxanne's direction. Even if the water well is far away, it shouldn't be a problem when you can send the slave to draw the water.

“For me, it's alright. I think it's a good property.”

I don't know to what extent Roxanne is truthful. She should know that we can produce water with magic, right?

“I guess so.”

Because I can use [Warp] and [Water Wall], to me the flaws in this house aren't flaws at all.

I could say that this is a good property.

The problem is if it is fine by ending up choosing the first house?

But, researching various houses would take time.

It's cheaper than living at the inn, so meanwhile we'll settle for this. It'll be ok if we move to another place later if it turns out to be no good.

Because Roxanne said it's a good property, it seems it isn't a bad house.

"One year contract for this property is 45,000 nars. The contract, because you might not be able to move today, if it starts from tomorrow, it'll last until next year's 13th day of spring."

In other words, today is the 13th day of spring?

Because there's a market price, price-wise it isn't bad.

The manager doesn't seem to be a bad person.

The insight to grasp that Roxanne is a slave. She also kindly made the contract start from tomorrow..

The manager herself is an elected person; if there are several managers from the 1st to 6th district, there could be competition.

I think a dishonest manager that scams customers wouldn't be elected.

Once I look at Roxanne, she makes a big nod.

"Alright, let's rent this house."

After that, we walk and are taken to the Knight's Order station. My intelligence card is checked.

Even if she's a manager, her job is Merchant, so it looks like she can't use the intelligence card skill.

"We'll make the contract paperwork, but can you write?"

After returning to the hardware store, I am asked by the aunty. As expected, seems there are a lot of people who can't write.

"Is it fine if someone writes on my behalf?"

"Of course."

"Then, Roxanne, please."

"Certainly!"

While the aunty and Roxanne are preparing the documents, I look around the store.

There's a Chinese Wok on display. [4]

"What is this?"

"That's a pan that professional chefs use. It is used when cooking with high heat."

"Hmm."

It isn't exactly a Chinese wok, but it resembles one. It probably has a similar shape because it has the same use. Feeling nostalgic, I gaze at the Chinese wok for a little while.

"We're the only place that sells them around here. Probably you won't see many."

"Then add this to the rent. What's the total?"

"I'm happy that you'd be interested in our specially made pan. That's why as a special service the total is 31850 nars, is it ok?" [5]

Alright!

I had nothing to lose so I tried, but it seems the [30% Discount] works when the other party is a merchant.

Three gold coins in addition to silver and copper ones are taken out to pay.

The aunty hands over the keys to the house.

Since there's no furniture or bed, today we'll return to the Vale pavilion. From the Adventurer's Guild in Quratar, we jump to the now rented house.

The contract starts tomorrow, but it probably isn't a problem.

"Wasn't it said that this house used shielding cement?"

After I leave the Chinese wok in a suitable place nearby, Roxanne says that.

What are you saying?

"Yes. I tested if it could be used properly. Even if [Field Walk] can't be used, my [Warp] is ok."

If I couldn't use [Warp] we wouldn't have made the contract.

"Eh? ...That's so wonderful."

"I wonder."

If it's present Japan, one could commit as many times as one wanted the perfect crime of a sealed room murder case.[6]

Whether this world's banks have things like safe deposit boxes or not, it might be desirable to investigate.

Although I wouldn't do it.

How should I put it, if I couldn't use [Warp] because of the shielding cement, did Roxanne plan on walking from here to the labyrinth or the Adventurer's Guild every time?

Well that could very well be.

Or, would it work from the wall beside the entryway?

It is outside the house. That would be a bother, but...

Am I being too lazy?

Once you try travel magic, traveling by foot is troublesome.

One big reason a house was rented is because I had to walk from Vale pavilion to the Adventurer's Guild each time.

With my own house, I can [Warp] without fearing what anyone could think. It's extremely comfortable.

We warp from our house to the Adventurer's Guild in Vale.

It's evening in the town of Vale.

It feels like Quratar is located a bit further west.

After paying the fee for a single night, we enter the room.

Once I sit down on the bed, soon after Roxanne sits beside me.

Is it because I had ordered her to do that?

I'm happy that Roxanne sat beside me, but somehow I feel guilty.

Moreover, pushing her down is out of the question.

I feel like redoing everything from the start.

There's no helping it, I'll have to endure it for a while.

We do equipment maintenance and after finishing our meal, we go up to the room again.

“Well then, we’ll wash your body. Get undressed.”

“That’s no good. Washing master comes first.”

However, enduring until now, I was met with rejection!
Time is too precious to waste arguing. I take off all my clothes and get washed.

Afterwards I wash her enough.

Wash her I do. [7]

I wash her to my heart’s content till exhaustion.

From behind, I position my hands to the front. I wipe clean those sublime and beautiful sacred mountains.

Diligently. Carefully. Delicately.

So that I don’t leave a single micron uncleansed.

So that I don’t leave a single picogram of dirt. [8]

Many times. Many times over. Again and again. [9]

To one’s heart’s content. Until one’s heart grows tired.

I’m satisfied.

Well, immediately after, I’d get even more satisfied...

The next morning, while it is still dark, we enter the labyrinth in Vale.
After breakfast, we start the move.

With the Inn’s room and the house connected by [Warp], the case containing the maid uniform and Roxanne’s rucksack packed with things are moved into the house.

With half the body through, it is a strategy to transfer only the luggage with a single [Warp].

Seems the case and luggage are handled ok, a success without incident.

Vacating the Vale pavilion, we change residences.

In Quratar, arrangements are made to buy the minimum furniture such as a bed, table, chairs, cupboard, closet, cookware, cleaning implements, daily necessities, and other essential goods.

The furniture store people seem to bring them to the house in a cart.
All the furniture is second hand goods, but the bed’s mattress seems to have been replaced with a brand new one, so there’s no problem with

that.

We make many trips with [Warp] between the Adventurer's Guild in the town center and the new house.

That alone is a single day's work.

Incidentally, carpets are high-class items, so in Quratar they aren't being sold.

Are they obtained from peddlers? Seems like I must go to the Imperial Capital.

"Well then, I'll be going to draw water."

I am told by Roxanne after she returns from buying water jugs. As expected, doesn't she understand?

"There's no problem producing water with magic."

"Is that alright? But I heard it's considerably difficult to use magic."

"It'll be alright if Roxanne helps me."

"Err. What should I do?"

Taking out Durandal, we jump into the labyrinth.

Without even opening the entranceway, one can go to the work place. It's really convenient.

"Well, search for demons."

From repeatedly using [Warp] since the morning, I feel a little depressed.

I guess I used too much MP.

"Yes. Then, can I borrow my equipment?"

"We're only hunting one or two, so..."

"That's no good. We don't know what can happen in the labyrinth. One must diligently get prepared."

By Roxanne's urging, I wear the leather cap and leather gloves. So bothersome.

With Durandal, I slaughter the two Minos that Roxanne finds. MP is restored.

Roxanne is seriously convenient.

After returning, in the second floor room with drainage, four water jugs are lined up. Above them I create a [Water Wall].

Using magic once, enough water is collected that the jugs are not completely full, but more than half full.

The efficiency is not too good, but there's no helping it.

Just past noon the furniture is delivered, it becomes a little bit more like a real home.

It now looks like somewhere someone could live in.

One room in the second floor is chosen as the bedroom and we both carry the bed.

The closet is placed in another room, because it's awfully tasteless.

Right in the middle of the spacious room without any wallpaper, one bed is placed.

Roxanne prepares the sheets and quilt covers and spreads out a mat besides the bed, and it seems to have more or less become a bedroom.

“Of course, what should be done first, I think, is ascertaining the quality of the bed. How about it?”

I ask while lightly embracing Roxanne.

“Eh? Y-yes...unh.”

Receiving confirmation, our mouths cover each other.

Gently, my tongue is inserted and it is accepted. Seems there's no misunderstanding.

I lay her on the bed; we test the quality.

Of course, testing out the bed is the best.

How was the customer's experience? It's impossible to know. [10]

After that, we both make dinner.

Since there was no time, we didn't go to Quratar's labyrinth.

We only have some conversation.

Quratar's labyrinth has existed since extremely ancient times. How big is it? Since nobody has defeated the boss in the top floor, it's still

unknown.

Generally, once a labyrinth grows to 50 floors, the entrance appears as if it is luring people. [11]

Afterwards, while digesting the people, it slowly grows.

The record for highest floor reached for the labyrinth in Quratar is the 91st floor.

In addition to the legendary accomplishment of the first emperor's party being recorded, at the present time for reaching the 80th floor, one would be marked down as top-class.

To some extent, there's some pattern, but what kinds of demons appear on each floor differs for each labyrinth.

In Quratar's labyrinth, it is Kobolds on the 1st floor, Naive Olive on the 2nd, and Spy Spider on the 3rd.

Because Kobolds, being weak, are suitable for beginners, Quratar's labyrinth's 1st floor is a popular destination for people new to labyrinths.

What's more, I am taught while Roxanne is cooking.

Roxanne is making a vegetable stew in the stockpot; I'm frying meat in the Chinese wok.

Only the flavor isn't to the extent that you wouldn't eat it.

The vegetable stew might need to be boiled longer, but without a gas cooker, it isn't realistic to cook for a long time in this kitchen using firewood.

Someone needs to be constantly watching in front of the fire, in which case, one can't go to the labyrinth.

In other words, I need to put more effort into the fried meat dish. Because it's our first day, it's inevitable to speak of what can't be helped. It seems we should look for various seasonings and spices.

In this world, most likely it's a privilege of the wealthy class to employ a good chef that can cook delicious food all day long.

There are no artificial flavorings, solid dashi stock, or powdered soup base.

After dinner, the sun has set by the time I am boiling hot water.

In the middle of dim light, I wipe Roxanne's body.

"There's a candle but..."

"There's no candle stand."

Seems a set of candles, candle stand, and candle extinguisher are something necessary. [12]

I didn't know.

Certainly, there's no way to stick the candles up like on a cake.

"It would have been good if we had bought them today."

"I'm sorry. Because candles aren't something cheap, I thought they weren't necessary."

Well, I'm able to enjoy Roxanne's bouncy chest without relying on my vision.

Their substantial mass is conferred to my palms.

Without rushing to conclusions, it feels like they'll spill over.

Softly and smoothly they bounce back against the hands I'm wiping with.

Actually, without relying on vision, I concentrate all sensitivity into my palms. [13]

Maybe because there's no illumination she doesn't feel embarrassed; I am washed from the front too.

Testing the sensation of using the bed during the daytime is irrelevant. There's more room for nighttime dessert. [15]

Notes:

[0] Gollum: My precious!

[1] TL Note: Bathroom, half bathroom, restroom, washroom or powder room for those using American English. Toilet Room, lavatory or WC for those using UK Commonwealth English.

[2] TL Note: Remember that in medieval societies you either left your waste around the house, threw it out the window into unsuspecting passerby, even flushing is still preposterous because, unlike modern closed drainage which is separate from clear/drinking water, it was still being dumped into the nearby river never mind the people downriver that

would use it for drinking, washing or bathing, yuck! Even in today's world it still happens in poor and developing countries! Also a few chapters back it's explained that the Slums in Vale Town are located downriver for the same waste management reason.

[3] TL Note: Guess water well for drinking water, whereas river is for utility water.

[4] TL Note: Chinese Wok, for those that don't know what a wok is:
<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wok>

[5] TL Note: 45,000 nars for rent + 500 for the wok = 45500 nars - 30% discount = 31850 nars

[6] TL Note: It's referring to a murder case where room is locked from inside and can't be accessed from outside without leaving evidence, you often see this in detective manga and dramas

[7] Panda: He became enlightened like Yoda. Jk he's still pervy.

[8] Panda: Yup, still pervy.

[9] Panda: WHY AREN'T YOU RUNNING ROXANNE?!?!

[10] ED Note: Was it good for you? It was good for me.

[11] TL Note: Ch. 36 explains this. Labyrinths are living things like antlions luring people into a trap and eating them.

[12] TL Note: for those that don't know what a candle extinguisher/snuffer/douter is.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Candle_snuffer

[13] ED Note: Skill [Breast Perception] acquired.

[15]Panda: We all know what this mean.....no, he didn't eat cake.....
yomero: Then it must have been a creampie ;-)

Chapter 39: Map

*

It is comfortable to wake up while embracing Roxanne and to savor the pleasant feeling of Roxanne dozing in my arms.

“M...”

And when I wake up, it's the best to receive a kiss from Roxanne.

The soft and sweet kiss of Roxanne. To gradually wake up while being able to wriggle my tongue and after having sucked Roxanne's mouth, I let go of her lips slowly.

“Good morning, Master.”

“Good morning, Roxanne.”

I open my eyes, but it's pitch-black. Including the equipment, all of the clothes have been placed on the mats besides the bed. The wisdom of life. I get dressed in the dark, only relying on the sense of touch.

I cannot neglect to go to the labyrinth and it's not like I have other things to do. No, I have things to do but I chose not to; that is why.

If it's only 1 day I think a break is necessary some times. I can spend 24 hours in bed with Roxanne without anyone bothering me. I want a loose life filled with lasciviousness, but I can't stop now.

At least let's kiss again. I draw Roxanne close before warping. I snatch and suck Roxanne's tongue.

Roxanne moans lightly, but she doesn't refuse. When I bite Roxanne's tongue lightly with my lips, Roxanne wriggles her tongue around in my mouth.

I talk with Roxanne while eating after coming back from Vail's labyrinth.

“These boiled vegetables are quite good.”

“Thank you very much. The ham and eggs are very delicious, too.”

Breakfast was some bread I bought with some leaf vegetable that

Roxanne boiled and some eggs and ham that I cooked. It is a very simple dish; the vegetables were boiled with salt and some vinegar while the eggs and ham were baked. Even though it is simple, it doesn't taste bad. Or is it that it can't taste bad since it is simple? Because it is difficult to control the boiling temperature and make a stew, we should cook this type of dishes.

“This bread is better after all.”

The 2 Nars bread from yesterday's dinner was dry and didn't taste good. That is not something a stingy person should say. Today's bread, which I bought on my way back from the labyrinth, is 8 Nars and Roxanne and I each eat half.

“But, is it all right for me to eat the same thing?”

“Since we have to enter the labyrinth, we have to invest in our body.”

“Thank you very much! I'll do my best.”

1 egg is 5 Nars, and we ate 1 egg each, the ham was sliced from a 100 Nars smoked ham and is roughly 15 Nars for each person so about 30 Nars for two people altogether. The leaf and the dessert of boiled greens when put together with the stew from yesterday's diner is a pile of several Nars.

I think it is a meal which is classified as a luxury in this world. Even the ham, because it is only good if it is baked, salt, and spices, are high class articles.

Although the quantity is quite good, I am getting used to 2 meals a day. Breakfast after the sun rises and dinner before the sun sets. Because I have some free time before breakfast, I feel really hungry.

I don't intend to compromise a meal. The difference in average height between a modern Japanese and a Japanese in the EDO period is about 20 centimeters. Since there is no difference in DNA, you can see the importance of nutrition. And I don't have to think about gaining weight since I enter the labyrinth, there are no sweets, and I eat 2 meals a day.

“Today I'd like to go to Quratar's labyrinth.”

I talk about my plan while eating.

“Of course.”

“After, I’d like to do something about the tasteless room.”

After all, there is just some furniture.

“I think we should display a carpet.”

“Display a carpet?”

“Yes.”

“Not spread it on the floor?”

“Yes.”

According to Roxanne, to spread a carpet on the floor is something only rich people do. It seems like they use a carpet as a tapestry at an ordinary house. Difference in culture? Oh, because there isn’t wallpaper in this world, it would be a good decoration.

“We can get carpets at the imperial capital. Have you been to the imperial capital, Roxanne?”

“Unfortunately, I haven’t. I would like to clean the house so how about you go in the meantime?”

“Then I can go to the imperial capital in the morning and go to Quratar’s labyrinth in the afternoon.”

“Certainly.”

To be able to warp inside Quratar’s labyrinth, I must go inside once. I should warp near the entrance when I return from the imperial capital.

After breakfast, I warp to the adventure’s guild in the imperial capital. I wander around the Imperial capital, looking at what kind of stores there are and where they are. The Imperial capital is large and there are all kinds of shops here and there.

Because in Quratar, almost all the shops are for explorers, there aren’t that many kinds of products. It is centered on shops that buy equipment and drop items. Like I thought, it seems like a lot of shops and products gather in the imperial capital.

I found the carpet shop, clothes shop, and the seasoning shop. I didn’t

buy anything, just looked. When I buy something, I should come with Roxanne.

And, I don't know if it is coincidence or not, but I just saw 1 shop which seems to be expensive. In the clothes shops, there is a huge difference between the high quality clothes which are comparable to Ginza boutique of the imperial capital and the ones in Quratar. Obviously, it seems expensive.

The inside is spacious and even though it is the inside, there are steps and some steps rise; there is a mat spread at the entrance. The fabric is put at the back exclusive for Haute couture.

I don't know if it is because it is the imperial capital or the adventure's guild is around the corner, but there are only high-class shops. Well thanks to that, I found a shop that sells high-quality carpets.

Because I bought all kinds of things yesterday, there isn't much money left over. There are 2 coins of gold, but there are less than 100 silver coins.

On the way back from the capital, I go to the knight's office and pay a silver coin for the entrance fee.

“How about the labyrinth's conquest map too?”

The capture map of the Quratar's labyrinth was sold in the knight's office too. It is the business of many knights. On the stand, there are some brown poor papers lined up. The map seems to be some simple arrows written on the paper.

“Each level's capture map is 20 Nars a piece, 1 booklet that has all the levels is 1000 Nars, and if you want a nicely done book of parchment, it is 20,000 Nars.”

For now, 20,000 Nars is too much and buying the booklet would be cheaper than buying 1 map at the time because level 91 shouldn't be captured yet; I don't know if the booklet has 91 or 90 pages.

However, it is a dirty and weak piece of paper either way you see it. It may crumble to pieces in a very little time. It may be just a waste even if I

buy a booklet. Should I buy the booklet or buy 1 at the time?

“This booklet too.”

I decide to get the booklet. When I start buying maps from level 1, it may be suspicious. It will be strange that I keep buying maps, but I don't go in the labyrinth. Let's just hope that if we keep it properly it won't be ruined immediately.

“Let's see... that would be 11 silver coins in total.”

Says the knight while looking worried. The [30% Discount] doesn't seem to work though if I do to the knight what I do to the vendors, it'll be serious.

Added to the admission fee, I pay the 11 silver coins and go to the entrance of the labyrinth. There was an explorer guide at the entrance too.

The explorer who guides you in the labyrinth of Quratar seems to be highly ranked since he is person who conveys the achievements of the first emperor. Although there isn't a party who can break through level 90, you can go to level 91. This is because it has been passed between explorer guides.

If you pay the explorer, he may take you to the level you want to go, but because it may be necessary in the future, I enter level 1. I enter the labyrinth, following the party before me. The inside is no different from the labyrinth close to the town of Vail; it is the familiar and tasteless cave.

The only difference is that there are a lot of people in Quratar's labyrinth. There are people everywhere. Can I hunt like this? Even as I keep advancing, there are people.

In a place where there are few people, I cast warp to return home. As long as people doesn't find out that I don't have to use the incantation, there isn't a problem since there is nothing strange if an explorer uses dungeon walk.

“I'm back, Roxanne.”

“Welcome back, Master.”

When I enter home, Roxanne greets me. She stops cleaning and bows.

If she wore her maid cloths with this, it would be perfect. Well since they were expensive clothes, she doesn't wear them while actually working.

“Did you learn to greet like that in the merchant office at Vail?”

Roxanne's behavior is excellent. It wouldn't be possible without being taught by someone. Since the time she spends with the slave merchant may not be a pleasant memory, I don't want her to recall too much.

But this time I dare to ask because it may be necessary information when I buy the next slave.

“Yes, that is right. Is it strange?”

“No. It is wonderful.”

Like I thought, she learned it from the slave trader. I get near her and pat her dog ears.

“Yes. Thank you very much.”

“I went to Quratar's labyrinth and it is full of people”

I change the topic immediately.

“Since you can easily get a capture map and there are a lot of people, there is no danger of you finding a room where a lot of demons spawn and because there are a lot of people killing demons, there are many magic crystals and treasure chests. Even if you have to pay, there are more benefits.”

“I understand that since a lot of demons are killed, there are many magic crystals. But why treasure chests?”

The magic crystals are the collection of magic power that comes from demons when killed and if there is a lot of people, then more demons are killed and more magic crystals are made.

“I was told that the contents of a treasure chest are the equipment of a person who got defeated by a demon.”

Mmmm. This is an awkward conversation. That was brutally frank.

If there are many people, then there are many who are killed. Therefore there are a lot of treasure chests and because of that, more people gather for the treasure chests.

“But there are too many people, how do we hunt?”

“Because Quratar’s labyrinth is considerably large, the deeper you go, the less people there are. Besides, the first floor has a lot of beginners because more people are safer.”

“Is that so?”

“If we go higher, we would see less people. Or you can hunt in the middle of the night when there are less people.”

I could hunt in daytime if I go to the other side of the planet. Doesn’t anyone come from such a place? Maybe the distance you can travel with field walk is limited.

“Then we will go to Quratar’s labyrinth tomorrow morning. Do you want to go to Vail’s labyrinth today?”

“As you wish.”

After that, I go to Vail’s labyrinth to replenish the water she used for cleaning. After returning, I use water magic, but it’s not enough. The water is used for almost everything, for dinner, for the toilet, and for bathing before sleeping.

“Sorry. Please help me a little.”

Because I teleported to the fourth floor of Vail’s labyrinth, I used a considerable amount of MP. When advancing according to Roxanne guidance, we find a group of 1 green caterpillar and 2 minos. Because it is troublesome if the green caterpillar fires its thread, I kill it first.

As for the minos, Roxanne keeps them occupied. While I think that, 1 of them aims for me with its horn.

I try to avoid in a hurry, but I couldn’t. My left hand’s forefinger, which was holding Durandal, is caught between the horn and Durandal.

IT HUUURRTS!!!

It is so painful that tears come out unconsciously. A vital spot was hit. It makes a JinJin sound.

As retaliation, I put all of my mind to kill the 2 minos. It took eight hits. I get it; it is bad to get careless.

Because I was going to hunt only a little, I didn't wear the leather gloves. I had handed the leather mittens to Roxanne and I was too lazy to wear 1 myself.

I still have the magic crystal in my item box although this can't be helped since I used the points from [Crystal Acceleration] and [Increased experience rate] to use Durandal. Because I still don't understand well enough the [Required experience] value yet, I decided not to play with it.

For example, if we need to kill 20 demons to rise 1 level. When the necessary experience value is at 1/10, then I need 2 demons to rise 1 level. Then what will happen when I kill a demon without putting points in necessary experience value and after that, I kill a demon with the necessary experience value at 1/10? Or the other way too. If I kill a demon with the necessary experience value at 1/10 and after that, I kill a demon without the necessary experience value, will my level rise?

I understand it to some extent, but it is hard to know for certain. I don't know how the experience value of the demons on the second floor differs from the demons on the first.

I can't remove Durandal while experimenting so I need to use weapon rank six. This means that I don't have enough spare bonus points for increased experience and decreased required experience. This means I may end up hunting dozens or hundreds of demons to do an experiment.

But is there any reason to experiment with it? Is there any meaning in experimenting with it? If I kill 20 demons and my level increases, and then kill another demon with required experience set to 10%, my level probably won't go up. Isn't that enough information for now?

It's probably a waste to fight without decreasing my required experience by as much as possible.

We go back to the house from the labyrinth. I still have on my mind the pain of my finger. Probably because of my lack of experience, I underestimated the labyrinth and there was an opening. It would be a good lesson that the labyrinth is a fearful place.

It looks like my finger would be all right for the time being. Because of the pain, it may have caused internal bleeding, but it would be cured with the HP absorption of Durandal.

“Something wrong?”

Roxanne asks me as I look at my finger.

“It just grazed me a little.”

“Are you ok?”

She seems relatively worried. Although the one who was wrong is me since I didn't listen to Roxanne's advice of wearing leather gloves.

“It is not all right. Could you lick it a little?”

I hold out my forefinger before Roxanne's eyes.

“E...Oh. Ano...”

Roxanne seems to be puzzled, but she doesn't particularly refuse. She seems to be fine with it. Thinking that, I bring my finger close to her mouth.

Roxanne opens her lips. Her light pale pink lips expand the gap slowly. The crimson content is exposed. A sexy bright red tongue.

Roxanne brings her face close to my finger and closes her lips. My forefinger is fully wrapped in a fluffy feeling. It is moistened, warm and soft. A fleshy tongue wraps my finger and twines gently.

Roxanne closes her eyes and sucks on my finger. Roxanne's chestnut eyelashes are long and there is too many to count, probably because she is from a wolf tribe. Although it isn't to the extent to say that I'm bewitched, it is splendid. This is the aim of an adult woman who uses make-up lightly.

I do not move my finger and leave it to Roxanne. Roxanne's tongue goes

back and forth around my finger several times. It is rubbed and gently twines. And my finger is healed in her mouth which is calm and full of affection.

Once again, she opens her light pale pink lips and I can see the inside of her crimson mouth. And with a white thread between my finger and her palates, she is moving her tongue and tasting my finger. Roxanne's face moves away slowly.

I barely endure the feeling of wanting to chase her mouth. I really want to chase it. Roxanne, I really want to kiss you.

“U-Umu. The pain went away. Thank you.”

Roxanne turns her face away embarrassed.

“Is this some kind of skill?”

“No. It is different.”

“Even though it is amazing, almost like healing magic.”

“I don't think there is such a thing.”

“No, it is amazing. If there is anything from now on, I'll be counting with you.”

“...A-Ano... Yes”

I praise her until she finally accepts to do it again. You did a wonderful thing. Although I had a painful experience because of my carelessness, with this I'm even or rather I end up better. The advantage of an injured person.

Chapter 40: Quratar's Labyrinth

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The next morning we went to Quratar's Labyrinth. I prepared my equipment in the dark, and warped to the first floor's entrance room.

Even though I expected it to be less crowded at this time, I still saw someone straight away. Dungeon walk can be used in the entrance room so there wasn't a problem.

"Let's see. Straight ahead I think."

I showed Roxanne the capture map to double check. The map isn't a complete map of the whole floor, it's just a brief map showing the path that leads to the second floor. There isn't any other information on it, and the quality of the paper is rather bad.

"This is pretty bad quality."

"Well, that's how papyrus is."

"Papyrus?"

"Yes."

Oh! So this is papyrus? I learnt about it in history class. Flimsy paper with a brownish color. Well, it's not really even paper. It seems like it will tear really easily. This is the first time I've seen it.

There's only writing on one side, would it tear if the back is written on? Or is it single sided because the 90 maps are normally sold separately?

Last night I removed the first three maps from the booklet and put them in my rucksack. The booklet has 90 pages with the capture maps up til the 90th floor. The pages have the floor numbers written on them. The numbers for 1 to 3 I remember from the Vale restaurant.

"There seem to be quite a lot of people."

“Especially on the first floor, there are parties entering all the time.”

“Hmmm.”

“There’s a lot of people doing long hours to make money.”

Despite the fact that it’s early there is still a considerable amount of people.

It’s comparable to the amount of people in here during the day yesterday. The party ahead of us seems to be looking at a map as well, and is moving along about thirty meters ahead of us.

It seems I didn’t need a map.

We continue on the path indicated by the map and arrive at the boss room.

We had to walk about three times as much as I did in Vale’s Labyrinth. It seems that Quratar’s Labyrinth is quite large.

Even though we saw numerous people we did not encounter any demons.

There were several parties in the waiting room outside the boss room. We wait for a while and then our turn comes up.

The first floor boss is the Kobold Kampfer. Roxanne fights in the front, so it’s quite easy.

While Roxanne exchanges attacks with the enemy, I attack it from behind to weaken it with Durandal.

The second floor is quite different, there’s no people at all.

We ran into demons numerous times.

Since there isn’t anyone to see it I can freely use Durandal and magic.

The floor boss is attacked in a pincer formation with Roxanne at the front and myself at the back again.

My job is simply to attack it from behind to weaken it with Durandal.

“Isn’t there more people on the third floor than there was on the second?”

“Yes, because the second floor is still half Kobolds.”

“Ah, that makes sense.”

When you’re strong enough to work your way up, the Kobold isn’t worth fighting anymore.

Thus there wasn't anyone on the second floor.

"The Kobold is a weak demon for beginner's so they gather on the first floor of Quratar's Labyrinth to hunt them. The second floor isn't popular for beginners, and not popular for anyone else since it's still half Kobolds. As the Kobolds decrease more on the third floor, the amount of people increases."

We saw numerous people on the third floor, though not as many as the first floor.

Unless there's no choice we do our best so that nobody see's me using Durandal.

Against the floor boss, Roxanne still handles the front while I swing at it from behind with Durandal.

The third floor boss, the Spice Spider, leaves pepper behind.

"Oh, Pepper! I've heard that pepper is worth it's weight in gold."
"It can't possibly be that valuable."

It seems I had a strange belief.
I think it's used in a lot of meat dishes.

Well, it isn't a special item since you can get it any time from beating the Spice Spider.

It was a short lived joy.

We continued on to the fourth floor.

"How crowded is it?"
"A bit less than the third floor. If we head deeper in we should be able to fight without being seen."
"Ok, lets do that."

I didn't bring the capture map for this floor, so we won't be clearing it for now.

Even though there's capture maps for Quratar's Labyrinth and we can work our way up quickly, it isn't a good idea.

At some point we'll hit our limit.

Somewhere there's a floor we won't be able to get past and a boss we can't defeat at our current levels.

I don't know where.

It could be an upper floor, or could be the fifth floor boss.

I'm sure things will become dangerous if we advance too quickly.

Roxanne continues on until there are no more people around, we find a small safety room and thus this morning's searching is over.

We return to the house and make breakfast.

Today we are having baked shema.

Shema is something like flavoring vegetables with a herb.

We roll meat up in this and bake it.

I smack the meat with a pocket knife as a substitute for a meat cleaver.

We season the meat with Kobald Salt, and Pepper which has been crushed in a mill and then rolled with the shema.

Some olive oil was added to the pot, and the food was baked.

The olive oil is dropped by the plant demon Naive Olive from Quratar Labyrinths second floor.

The Kobald Salt comes from the Kobald, and the Pepper comes from the third floor boss's dropped item.

The taste was rather average.

The shema is a bit spicy, and similar to the leaves of a red pepper.

It's fine for a first try.

After breakfast we head to the cloths shop in Quratar.

Roxanne's clothing is high quality, but it won't last forever.

Our spare clothing is just my Jersey, and Roxanne's Maid cloths.

The high quality boutique in the Imperial Capital isn't necessary for our cloths.

"Should we get two sets of top and bottom cloths?"

"Is it alright? This shop sells brand new cloths."

Roxanne asks at the entrance to the shop.

My overcoat is second hand, but second hand goods didn't hold much interest in modern Japan.

It seems to be the opposite here with emphasis on value.

“It’s fine.”

“I think it’s common for a slave to wear second hand clothing.”

So the flow goes from nobles to commoners to slaves?

Nobles buy the brand new items, it’s sold and then commoners buy it and sell it a few times, and then slaves get it. Maybe that’s it.

“It doesn’t matter. You can choose something you like.”

I give her a nudge, and push her into the store.

Even if I say top and bottom cloths, there isn’t much variety.

A tunic for the top, and trousers for the bottom.

By the way, the tunic is put on over the head, unlike a shirt which opens up at the front.

Village women have long skirts, but all women who enter the labyrinth wear trousers.

Roxanne looks through the few types of cloths choosing carefully.

Roxanne is looking for my cloths as well.

Occasionally she holds something up to my body with a “this one?” or a “how about this?”.

When the cloths are finally bought and we leave the shop, it seems most of the day has passed us by.

Our rented house is to the east when coming from the center of town.

Even though we thought it might take half a day, it ended up taking longer.

“Thank you, Master.”

“You even found cloths for me, thank you.”

It’s worth it just to see this smile from Roxanne.

All up the cloths ended up costing 1,050 nars. It doesn’t seem especially high.

“I’d like a larger tub to wash the cloths in, is that alright?”

One the way back, Roxanne points towards the general store with wooden goods displayed.

When one thing increases it’s necessary for something else to increase as

well.

“That’s fine.”

Upon entering the store there are tubs and basins displayed to one side. Roxanne picks out a large tub and passes it to me.

“Welcome!”

“This tub, is it the largest you have?”

When a worker comes over, I ask him while showing the tub that is a bit under a meter in diameter.

This general store has a wood craftsman in the back processing the wood. If it’s here, “that” may be available.

“Something can be custom made.”

“That’s fine?”

“We even cater to nobles. If there’s a large amount of cloth to wash we can make something.”

“I’d like to request something.”

What do I want? A bathtub.

Since we managed to rent a house after many trials, next I’d somehow like to get a bathroom.

There doesn’t seem to be a custom of people taking baths, unless they are rich.

Water is fetched, and a heating fire is made, and it’s quite costly. I don’t know if there are any hot springs, but I don’t think so in this climate.

Even in Japan I mainly used a shower.

Only sometimes would I get the desire to use a bath.

It’s different now, my circumstances have changed.

If I get in the bath now, Roxanne would follow.

Roxanne would be together with me in the bath.

Since Roxanne will join me, I really want a bath.

I’d really like to bathe with Roxanne.

Roxanne would wash me, and then we'd soak in the bath.

Mmmmmm.

There is no choice, I need a bath built.

By any means, it is necessary to build a bath.

It is absolutely necessary to make it.

Did I remember to say it's necessary?

Ok, it's time to do this.

But, how do I make one?

That's the problem.

No bathtubs were seen in the furniture dealer or other shops of Quratar.

The old lady said I could change the interior of the house if I get permission, but I also need to find someone to do the work.

Even though I can make water and fire with magic, I can't reveal that. Water comes from the well or the river, and it can be boiled on a fire with brushwood but that's normally quite expensive.

Will they think I'm a bath lover or something?

I can ask around, and a boiler isn't necessary.

I've already verified that I can heat water with fireball.

I don't need them to make something unnecessary, but how do I decline it?

Can an DIY amateur make a bathtub?

I considered it, but I'm sure I'll need a craftsman.

You never know what you can do until you try though.

"You can see our merchandise, I think we can make something without problem."

"I see."

"How big were you thinking?"

"If possible I'd like something with a bit more diameter than the height of a person."

I imagine Katsushika Hokusai's [picture](#).

"We can do that, is the regular depth fine?"

“Yes, it’s fine like this.”

I point at the tub with the deepest size.
I didn’t refer to the purpose because asking for something strange would have been suspicious.

The depth is around 50cm.

The bottom is thick, so maybe it’s a little shallower?

The purpose is not just to take a bath, but to get in with Roxanne.
It should be a reasonable size.

It has to be wide, but shallow isn’t bad.

I’ve heard that a deep bath isn’t good for your heart.

“Hmm... Well, how about 2,000 nars?”

After the workman thinks about it for a while, he presents a price.
It’s a lot cheaper than I thought.

Well, the other tubs are 20 nars and 100 nars so I guess that’s rather high in comparison.

“That’s fine.”

“Since it’s built to order it will take around five or more days. I’ll send a messenger to let you know when it’s done and we can organize to deliver it on a convenient day.”

The price seems to include delivery.
By the way, this world does seem to have addresses.
Quratar has six sections and seven districts, and the address of the house I’m renting is 123.

That’s fine, I’ll also get this.”

“Thank you, that’s 50 nars.”

I show the wash tub that Roxanne picked out.
Since the worker has the job of villager my 30% discount doesn’t apply.

“A large tub, what will you use it for?”

“You can look forward to finding out.”

Since Roxanne is holding the cloths, I carry the tub back to the house.
After returning to the house we change into the cloths we just bought.

“I’ll wash the cloths.”

“Yes. Since we took a lot of time in town today we’ll have a break from the Labyrinth for today.”

“Ok, then I’ll do the cleaning with my spare time.”

It’s fine since we were in the Labyrinth before sunrise. Since I made water for washing, cleaning, cooking and bathing, I ended up having to go to the Labyrinth twice for MP recovery. I’m a little worried about filling the bathtub now.

“I’ll prepare dinner now, we are having white stew.”

“What is white stew?”

“You haven’t had it?”

“No.”

“Well you can look forward to it then.”

I should be able to make white stew with the ingredients from this world.

First, you cook round slices of meat in a pan with some wine and water. You let it stew for 30 minutes.

In this world you get wine and milk by taking a bottle to the shop. This world doesn’t have any carton’s or PET bottles.

Next, the vegetables that Roxanne used for the vegetable stew were added and cooked with a low flame for a bit.

The spring onion is good to remove any bad smells from the meat, but spring onions are poisonous to dogs.

I checked with Roxanne to make sure there were no vegetables she wasn’t able to eat.

It’s the same vegetables that Roxanne was using on her own, so there shouldn’t be any problems.

The white roux is made while cooking.

Butter is put in the wok and some flour is fried.

Then milk goes in and everything cooks on low heat until it thickens up.

I did the white roux rather well.

I can probably make cream croquette’s and clam chowder with this.

The gratin would be hard since it burns with the oven.

I put the white roux with some leaf vegetables to give it a green color. Finally I add some salt and pepper for taste.

Success!

Roxanne quite liked the taste as well.

“Master, it’s very delicious.”

I want to say don’t talk while you have white stuff in your mouth.

Chapter 41: Treasure Chest

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While I was waiting for the tub to be completed, I continued searching through the Labyrinth and finally found the fourth floor boss room. It's helpful to have Roxanne while searching, but it's still not easy. Even if we know the direction of a demon we sometimes have to backtrack the way we came.

Demons can be hidden by doors which hides their smell too, this also makes us walk back and forth a bit.

Should I prioritize exploring or hunting?

Vale's Labyrinth is different to Quratar's where the only time you won't see other people is the early morning.

Quratar's Labyrinth has a map so it isn't necessary to explore it, however there is the chance to find magic crystals and treasure chests so exploring to some degree is necessary.

After finding the fourth boss in Vales Labyrinth, I feel I've started to become familiar with how each floor is layed out.

The boss of the fourth floor is a demonic cow similar to the Mino.

Roxanne will attack from the front, and I'll attack with Durandal from the back.

As I think about it, I find myself worried that there might be a back kick that we don't know about.

I attack it indiscriminately.

A slash to the right flank, and then a slash to the left flank, I attack it over and over.

We destroyed a frightening enemy, and then moved on the the fifth floor.

The first thing Roxanne found is a Mino Lv5.

I attack it with Durandal once, but it isn't defeated.

Durandal killed everything in a single blow on the fourth floor.

The only job I have equipped to improve my strength is Hero, I mainly use

jobs for extra intellect.

After a second swing, it's defeated.

I put Durandal away, and Roxanne finds a Cheep Sheep.

This demon appears on the fourth floor of Quratar's Labyrinth, but in Vale it appears on the fifth floor.

Even if it looks like a sheep, it still looks quite ferocious.

It also has horns.

As I feared, even though I used three fireballs, it was not enough to defeat it.

It can't be helped I guess.

It moves sideways, and Roxanne moves to counter it. I shoot a fireball at it from an angle and it's defeated.

When we encounter three of them at once it will be quite dangerous.

With Roxanne's help we can try to avoid groups of three, but it's hard to tell the size of the groups from smell so we can't avoid them completely. I'll be embarrassed if we have to run away, so I'm trying to think ahead.

If it's a group with Kobolds then it shouldn't be a problem, Kobolds are easy to pick off even if there are three.

The Kobold Lv5 can be defeated in two spells.

Like Roxanne said, she couldn't notice groups of multiple demons.

We came across a Mino and a Cheep Sheep.

She elegantly dodged them by a hair's breadth.

"Roxanne's movements are amazing. Should I try to copy them? Or is it too hard for me to copy?"

"I think Master can do it to some point."

I'm aware of my own skills.

Roxanne's opinion might not be right.

We came across a group of three. A Cheep Sheep, a Mino and a Green Caterpillar.

"Roxanne, get ready."

To start off I use three [Fire Storm].
As soon as I use the third one the Mino is on top of us.
The Cheep Sheep and Green Caterpillar are also near.

Roxanne parries the Mino's horn with the Scimitar.
Despite the parry she manages to get in a blow as well.
I block the horn of the Cheep Sheep with the wand.

"It's coming!"

Roxanne yells a warning.
Glancing sideways I can see an orange magic formation underneath the
Green Caterpillar.
It's about to spit thread.

I don't worry about it.
I use a fourth [Fire Storm] without moving.
If the Green Caterpillar is defeated then the thread will not appear.

My [Fire Storm] starts at the same time as the Green Caterpillar shoots
its thread and Roxanne jumps back to avoid it.
It sprays it all around our area and a little of it gets on me.

All three demons are defeated simultaneously.
They all become smoke, and the thread melts away as well.

"Urgh. The Green Caterpillar is troublesome because of this."

I let out a breath, and lower my wand.

"Yes. It finds a position where it can aim at two people."

Roxanne is about a meter behind me.
The thread doesn't seem to have worked on her.
Did she avoid it all?

"Even if he shoots thread, you can avoid it?"
"Well, the demon was defeated before it finished shooting its thread. If it
went on longer it would have been harder to avoid."

If I jump back a meter I can try to avoid it too.

"So on the fifth floor if I shoot off four spells it will be the same time as

thread being shot.”

“Yes, and if Master can handle one then I think we can fight three easily.”

I was worried when we fought two demons earlier, but we even managed to defeat a group of three.

Looks like we'll be able to keep fighting on the fifth floor.

Since we can fight on Vale's fifth floor, we should try the fifth floor of Quratar's Labyrinth as well.

The following morning we use the map of the fourth floor to go to the boss room.

Beep Sheep Lv4.

This seems to be the boss of Quratar's fourth floor.

Baa Baa. It's noisy like a normal sheep.

I've become used to seeing their ferocious looking faces.

The front with the horn is left to Roxanne.

I move to the side and attack it with Durandal.

An orange magic formation appears near it's feet.

I attack the sheep with Durandal, and the spell is interrupted.

“What skill does the Beep Sheep have?”

“I don't know.”

I ask Roxanne, but she doesn't seem to know.

I don't think it will be string like the Green Caterpillar.

Even though I can stop the string with Fire Wall, there isn't a way to counter a skill I don't know about.

Durandal has the incantation interruption skill at least.

Near where I attacked with Durandal, the sheep bends it's front legs.

A kick from the rear leg comes at me.

I jumped back a lot to avoid the kick.

Being hit by that kick could put a hole right through me.

If I watch carefully I can manage to avoid it.

The same way that Roxanne avoided the string, I was now a meter back.

The Beep Sheep doesn't come after me.

The orange magic formation appears at it's feet again.

Dangerous.

I raise Durandal as I charge in panicking.

I'm an idiot.

The purpose of the Beep Sheep's attack was to buy time to use it's skill. Since I jumped back so far I've given it an opportunity. I've been caught off-guard.

Even though I swing Durandal, I'm not in time. Using [Overwhelming] might not be enough either. There's a "Baa Baa" from the sheep like a warning sound.

...

.....

.....

Gah. TN Babel Fish translated this sound effect くおつ as "To prevent your boobs."

Suddenly I was pushed away by the Beep Sheep. I stagger two or three steps, but manage to hold on somehow. What happened?

Roxanne seems to have been attacked. She's holding her stomach.

Instantaneous movement?
Or a AoE attack?

"What happened..."

The Beep Sheep uses a head butt, but I manage to block it with Durandal. It wouldn't be good to be hit by the horn.

The first attack seems to have hit the Leather armor. It's pretty good. Though there's the chance it might pierce through it.

"I don't understand, I suddenly was hit with an attack."

I dodged the sheep's attack, and used Durandal to make a chance. In the moment between attacks from the Beep Sheep, I looked to Roxanne and used [Medical Treatment].

I can use Durandal to heal, but Roxanne doesn't have that option. Since her level is low, I try to prioritize healing Roxanne.

"I was attacked suddenly as well."

"Master didn't move for a little while."

"I didn't move?"

"Right, like sleeping."

Ah.

Beep Sheep's skill might be a technique to put its enemies to sleep or make them faint.

After the warning sound I lost consciousness.

When I was attacked I finally woke up.

That's why it feels like I was suddenly attacked.

"The enemy has a sleep skill."

"Yes, I think that's it."

When it uses that skill, it will be able to attack you.

I can't let it use that skill a lot.

I try to stick close to the demon to attack it at any time.

How much damage has Roxanne suffered? I don't know.

Even for my own damage I only have a rough sense of how much it is.

Should I use healing three times?

After fighting back and forth a bit, the sheep changes its position.

It points its horn towards me.

Does it think I am easier to deal with?

I block its horn with my sword, and then land an attack.

It attacks with its horn again and I frantically move my arms back to block the attack.

The Beep Sheep spins around, and prepares to launch a kick.

I lean back greatly and manage to avoid it, I don't want to end up in the same situation as before.

Roxanne is also attacking, but there won't be large amounts of damage from the Scimitar.

The sheep prepares again, and launches a kick at Roxanne.

She easily avoids it, and manages to slash at the leg while it's stretched out.

Her movements flow well when attacking the enemy.

The base of her body isn't moved, and she sways in a relaxed manner.

Since she dodges it closely, she won't be too far away to attack it.

This is in comparison to me, who jumped back a long way and gave the enemy a chance.

Even though I was cautious and rushed straight back in I still couldn't attack fast enough.

I deflect the horn, and finally manage to land a blow.

The Beep Sheep's head moves to the right, and then swings with strong momentum.

I could read it's attack, and lent back to avoid the swing.

Then I swung Durandal at it's neck because I saw an opening.

Durandal tears up it's soft neck.

Finally the demon is defeated.

It becomes smoke and disappears, leaving behind an item.

"It's finally defeated? Are you okay?"

"Yes, since you used healing several times I am alright. Thank you very much."

"Even if you think there's just a little damage remaining, say so. We have to give recovering our strength top priority.

"I understand. I will do so."

With Durandal out, we move to the fifth floor.

Roxanne guides me further in.

It seems there are less people here than there were on the fourth floor, but there is still a considerable amount.

Collagen Coral Lv5.

The Collagen Coral is the demon from the fifth floor of Quratar's Labyrinth.

It is a rock type demon.

It has one leg sticking out the bottom, and approaches us while hopping.

I attack it with Durandal.

I didn't think it would be hard, but it was quite firm.

Is it a rock like its appearance?

No, it's not a rock, it's coral?

Since it didn't get defeated in a single blow, I strike again and defeat it.

Coral gelatine.

It vanishes in smoke and an item remains.

The item seems to be collagen. TN: Collagen – The fibrous protein constituent of bone, cartilage, tendon, and other connective tissue that converts into gelatin by boiling.

“You can make Jelly?”

“Jelly?”

“Oh, don't worry about it.”

I asked Roxanne about it, but it seems to be different.

“The coral gelatin is an adhesive. The adhesive strength appears when you dissolve it in hot water. You can use it to stick carpet to the wall.”

Well, it seems like a convenient item.

Collagen Coral Lv5 can't be defeated with three spells.

It doesn't lay around or roll, and instead hops when it approaches.

Roxanne takes a stance and blocks it.

She dodged a pounce, and I launch a fourth [Fire Ball] where it landed.

“It has a pounce.”

“Yes, and with the bouncing it was difficult to work out the timing.”

We avoided it magnificently in comparison to the animal who kicks out its leg. The foot of the Collagen Coral doesn't bend.

Its movements are hard to understand though.

“We’ll get used to it.”

“Yes, I think it will be safe when we become accustomed to it.”

I don’t have a safe feeling.

The surface of the Collagen Coral is extremely rough.

If that hits me it’s going to be painful.

Still, it isn’t scarier than the Cheep Sheep which has the horn, so we charged at a group of three.

Even I can manage to dodge the pounce attack if I watch it while using the wand.

It’s best to avoid it instead of trying to block it with the wand, so when they jump up I react quickly.

It’s basically one on one though.

Lets not consider the person from the wolf tribe who is fighting two of them.

I’ll feel like I lost if I worry about it.

We advance further in with Roxanne leading the way and occasionally come to a dead end.

If you don’t check these you won’t find magic crystals or treasure chests.

We open a hidden door and a small room appears.

We enter.

It’s the usual room style, with a slightly raised center.

“Master, it’s a treasure chest.”

“Treasure chest? This?”

“Yes, that’s right.”

This is a treasure chest?

Instead of a chest, the floor is just a slightly raised lump.

Roxanne didn’t hesitate, and rushed in to pierce it with the Scimitar.

Won’t there be a trap?

“Is it safe?”

“Even if it’s a mimic, there won’t be anything until it’s defeated.”

Thank you for that strong reply.

I wanted you to do it when we at least took out Durandal.

The floor is torn up with the Scimitar.
It's possible to roll it up like a newspaper.

Equipment: Leather Bracers.

A Bracer comes out.
It's regular equipment.

So it's true that the items a person is wearing come out of the Treasure Chest.

After offering a silent prayer to the former owner, I take the equipment.

Chapter 42: Bath

*

Within Quratar labyrinths fifth level, we came across a magic crystal.
By chance.

Collagen Coral Lv5

Collagen Coral Lv5

Magic Crystal

Cheep Sheep Lv5

The moment I was doing [Appraisal] on the demons, it also appeared.
For an instant I thought four had appeared.

First of all, The demons received 3 shots of [Firestorm].
With the wand I parried the Collagen Coral's ramming body attack and finished it off with a fourth shot.

"We should head straight back to our previous location."

"No, There is a magic crystal over there."

I stopped Roxanne when she tried to go back the way we came.

I go forward. To the area where I first saw the demons.

Half of a black magic crystal was buried and hidden in the ground.

"You found it even though it was dark and so far away, as expected of Master"

"It just happened to be near where we found the demons"

"Still it is difficult to find since the black magic crystal does not shine."

I see, so the black magic crystal doesn't shine?

There is a possibility I overlooked them until now.

I cannot make observations every single time but, will try to make better observations from now on even if it seems insignificant.

"Do the other crystals shine?"

"Yes, but they are very dim."

In the end it becomes a white magic crystal, I think it will shine.

It is certainly easier to find a shining one.

“In the case of black magic crystal, I can’t sell it until it accumulates magic?”

“Well, magic crystals are fusible.”

I hand the black magic crystal to Roxanne and she takes it.

“Fusible?”

“Yes, you push the two and they easily fuse into one.”

“I see, so the magic is not lost with the fusion?”

“It is fine.”

I carry some spare magic crystals so I don’t mind trying it to see. After all they are 10 Nars.

I took out a green magic crystal from the rucksack.

I place the green one on the palm of my right hand and the black crystal that I found with my left hand I pile on top.

The black magic crystal sinks into the green one with no resistance at all. It enters steadily when I push it with my hand.

Somehow, it is a comfortable feeling.

It’s not a hard nor a soft reaction, it feels like an exquisite resistance.

It resembles a feeling of crushing bubble wrap that goes into cardboard boxes.

I think it may become a habit.

“Is it like this?”

Only the green crystal remained once I finished fusing the crystals. The magic crystal I found was black, so it didn’t even have 10 magic power in it.

At least 10,000 magic power is needed to change the colour of the green magic crystal, so it seems it didn’t have enough

We finished exploring the 5th floor by the time the bathtub was completed.

Beep Sheep who we’ve fought before is the boss of Vale labyrinth’s 5th floor.

The combination of demons and bosses appear to be the same in any labyrinth.

I must not let the Beep Sheep use a skill.

I stick close, always ready with Durandal which has the incantation interruption effect.

I don't jump back and instead block it's attack with the sword because I can't allow it to have an opportunity.

As long as the skill is prevented I can leave the front to Roxanne while I just focus on the back.

The coral demon in Quratar's labyrinth does not have a distinction between front and back, it's a bit troublesome.

But still when there are 2 people, attack frequency becomes half.

I swing Durandal around and somehow win.

"I will give back the medicine"

Roxanne lowers the rucksack.

Since I don't know what will happen, before the boss fight I handed the medicine to Roxanne.

It is something I learned from the previous boss fight.

It will be terrible if Roxanne is poisoned while I am affected by sleep.

If only the normal attacks have added effect then Roxanne can avoid them without a hitch.

"Isn't it alright to hold on to it until we see the demons from the sixth floor?"

"It's fine. Mino will appear on the sixth floor of the Quratar labyrinth."

Vail labyrinth's sixth floor demons as well as Quratar's second floor demons were Naive Olive.

If fighting demons I already fought then I feel relatively safe.

Because I can bring down Lv6 demons with 4 magic shots, I think sixth floor demons are not a problem.

I put away Durandal and the medicine and moved to the sixth floor.

The messenger from the woodshop came on the fifth day as promised.

After being told I could accept it straight away, he immediately went back

and returned with a wagon.

“Huge”

As I was waiting outside I saw the wagon in the distance and I unintentionally let a word leave my mouth.

It's big.

The enormous round tub is put vertically on the carrying tray.

The height of the carrying tray is 1 meter and the tub is 2 meters, so about 3 meters in total.

About half of the tub was above the coachman's head.

Since there is furniture of the similar height it probably isn't that big, but when I consider that it's a tub it still seems bizarrely impressive.

As the wagon approaches, I take a look and it really is big.

It really is about 2 meters.

It seems it was made according to my request, slightly taller than a person.

“Here are the ordered goods.”

“The boards are thick, it seems solid.”

The boards used are fairly thick.

The bottom boards seem to be considerably thick.

“Like this it will not break soon.”

The person employed to transport left with these words.

Like this it won't break.

I wonder how much water I can put in.

Let's see...

1 Litre is 1,000 cc.

Since 1 cc is 1 cubic centimetre so, 1cm x 1cm x 1cm.

So 100cm x 10cm x 1cm is 1,000cc and becomes 1 litre.

Since 1 meter is 100cm, 1 meter x 10cm x 1cm is 1 litre then 1 meter x 1 meter x 1 cm is 10 litres.

In a container size of length and width of 1 meter and depth of 1 cm can contain 10 litres of water.

Huh?

It's way more than I thought.

Since the size of the tub is radius x radius x Pi, the diameter is 2 meters then the radius is 1 meter and Pi is 3.14. [Otk: took some liberties as the Japanese was too messy to translate word by word and make sense] The depth is 50 cm so 3.14 meters x 50 cm x 10 litres is 1570 litres?

Let's calm down.

Calm down.

It could be a mistake..... nope.

I recalculated but it was still the same.

1570 litres of water fit in this tub?

Since 1 litre of water is 1 kg then it's 1570 kg.

That is approximately 1.5 tons.

It is a tremendous amount of water.

I did not think I would need a ton for daily life.

To add to that the boards are also thick.

"Fo-for now shall we carry it to the second floor?"

"Yes, Master"

Roxanne along with 2 other people bring the tub up to the 2nd floor.

No. It's no longer a tub, it's a bathtub.

It's very heavy but because you can roll it it's not unreasonable to move it.

With two people it will be easy to push up the stairs.

We put it in the room with drainage outlet on 2nd floor.

After we brought it into the room Roxanne and the two others carefully laid it down.

Since the room is about 8 tatami size, even if I put the bathtub in there, there would still be room.

"As expected it is a mansion."

"Erm. I wonder what is this?"

"Once you find out you will be surprised and will laugh. We will use this as a bathtub."

I declared to Roxanne.

A paradise to go in, but hell to produce the water.

I can make 10 litres of water with one [Water Wall] so I will need to cast magic as many as 157 times to make it full.

157 times?

Moreover just to make water.

My head hurts.

“A bathtub used to take a bath?”

“That’s right. I want to get it ready straight away.”

“I understand.”

I don’t know how much time it will take.

I think I should do the preparations fast.

First I lightly wash the bathtub with water, with [Water Wall] I fill the water jars with water.

Once filled, I cast [Fireball] on the water jars to heat the water.

One [Fireball] cast makes it lukewarm water, two casts make it boiling water.

I take into consideration that while preparing the hot water will cool down, after firing two casts I empty it into the bathtub.

Before the water gets too hot I should dilute it.

Because wood is different from ceramic water jars, I shouldn’t be shooting [Fireballs] at the accumulated water in the bathtub.

It would be terrible if the fire spreads.

While filling the bathtub with hot water, when magic consumed I jump to the labyrinth to replenish it.

It’s difficult.

“Like this we will take a bath about once a week.”

“What is wunsawik? TN:isshuwakan – word for one week, I guess a week does not exist there.

“...Once or twice every ten days.”

While warping to the Labyrinth several times I grumbled unintentionally.

This world does not have the concept of a week.

I think according to Roxanne I am an oddball who sometimes speaks in incomprehensible language.

I am a serious weirdo.

Midway, The temperature of the bathroom started to become hotter. It's like a sauna.

Only I enter and continue working while Roxanne is waiting outside. Just being in there a short while covers me with sweat.

“Here”

When I walked out Roxanne handed me a towel. I wipe off the sweat and again make a round trip to the labyrinth. Do I want to take a bath with Roxanne this much? I am really a pervert.

To the end, I was stubborn and collected the hot water in the bathtub. I'm desperate. For that reason I collected it.

It probably has been no less than 2 hours since the start of the preparations. I also prepared some spare water in the water jars.

“Today with this much done. It is finished.”

The tub is about 90% filled with hot water. The bathroom was filled with white steam.

“Good work.”

“If there's time lets go to the labyrinth once, and after dinner take a bath.”

I receive a towel from Roxanne and wipe my sweat. It will be fine for few hours since when I put my hand in it, it was still considerably hot.

“Umm, do I also partake?”

“Of course, that was my intention, but...?”

I wonder if Roxanne dislikes baths?
I want her to enter even if she dislikes it.
There is also an option of ordering her to enter.

“Only lords or nobles take baths. Also I was told to wait outside midway.”

“I told you to wait outside because inside is sultry. There was no reason for both of us to become drenched in sweat.”

“Was that the reason? I thought there was some special reason for master”

Did she think there was such a thing?
I return the towel and stroke her dog ears.

“Well special is special. Because I will enter together with Roxanne.”

“Eh. ...eem-eermm”

“We will enter together.”

“Y-yes, thank you very much.”

What a relief.
It seems we will enter together.
If at the very end she had refused then I wouldn't know for what reason I went through all the hardships.
After completing all the work for the day we enter the bath.
The water was still slightly too hot.
I create a [Water Wall] directly above the tub to cool the water.

Adjusting the temperature is difficult.
It is difficult to make fine adjustments with magic.
I put my right hand in the bathtub and stir it.
Is this good enough?

After a while I got the hang of making hot water, next I made about half the water jars into hot water using [Fireball].
I think it has become slightly easier. But really only slightly.
I wonder does it become slightly easier when the level increases?

I placed a lemon in the bathtub before dinner.
I'm not completely sure if it's a lemon but, it was translated as lemon so I

guess it is a lemon.

I'm not sure what kind of herbs to use to substitute iris leaves for bathwater. [Otk: seems putting 菖蒲湯 in bathwater is some sort of tradition in Japan since Edo times, I only had a brief look at it on Japanese Wiki about it, Google it for images if you are interested]

It would be terrible if it had a weird smell.

In case of hot citron bath, I wonder is it not possible to substitute for some other citrus fruit?

With the lemon there is a nice aroma.
Since it is edible it does not dissolve.

Roxanne placed a lantern in a hole within the room.
I take hot water and lightly rinse my body.
We both entered the bath after I washed Roxanne's body.

It feels good.

The mildly hot water surrounded my body.
I freely stretch my arms and legs out.
The size of the bathtub makes it feel like a hot spring.

Since there is no Kinoki cypress there is no mellow tree fragrance, but still it is relaxing. [Otk: 檜 - Kinoki Cypress is a type of tree that grows in Japan, seems to be water resilient, and based on what he said also releases a fragrance]

I place a towel on the edge of the tub and lay my head on it.

Roxanne also lies down.
I extended my arm and embraced her.
It feels good.

Her lean and flexible body comes close next to me.
Since she was floating I was able to easily come closer.
Our feet twine and cling together.

In the hot water Roxanne's skin is smooth.
It is softly smooth making it feel very good.

"Mmm, it's the best."

“Yes, it is a splendid feeling.”

She might have gotten the wrong meaning, but if Roxanne is fine with it then it is all good.

Something brushed against my knee in the water.
It is strangely comfortable.
I stretch a hand out as I wonder what it could be.
It's a tail.

Roxanne's tail spread like water plant in the bath.
When scooping with my arm there is a soft brush impression brushing on my hand.
In the water I stroked her with my hand gently.
This is an unexpected discovery.

“Roxanne's tail feels good.”
“Is that so? Thank you very much.”

I stretch my hand, the tail is swinging many times.
It sways gently in the water.
The tail waves like a gentle breeze passing through.
Roxanne's tail is pleasant in the bath.

It is way better to take a bath with Roxanne that I had thought it would be.
The preparations are difficult to do every day but, once every ten-no once every week-no once every five days I want to enter.
Once every 3 days is also fine.

I moved my body and soaked my head.
The hot water soaks through the hair.
I scrubbed my head in the hot water.
I scrubbed my head several times until all the dirt was out, and then raise my head.

「著作権保護コンテンツ」

「うーん、 最高だ」

ロクサーヌと一緒に風呂に入るのは、
思った以上に素晴らしい。

異世界迷宮

ハーレム

「著作権保護コンテンツ」

“It feels good. Roxanne should try it also.”

“Yes”

Roxanne soaked her head in hot water.

I stretched my hands out and scrubbed Roxanne’s hair.

I also washed her dog ears.

Her hair does not have the same feeling as her tail.

Still it will cling to my finger due to the moisture.

Roxanne was submerged in the water for nearly a minute.

Soon her upper body rises and the water runs down.

When she rose from the water I secretly stared at her huge mountains that were shaking *gaburun**gaburun*.

「著作権保護コンテンツ」

お湯の中、ロクサーヌの肌はなめらかだ。
しっとりかつさらさらしていて、気持ちがいい。

「はい。とても
いい気分
です」

「著作権保護コンテンツ」

Yup I knew it baths are great.

Baths are the best.

Chapter 43: Rare ingredients

*

Weapons merchant Lvl

Effects:

Small physical strength rise.

Small intelligence rise.

Small mind rise.

Skills:

Weapon appraisal.

Item box calculation.

Armor merchant Lvl

Effects:

Small physical strength rise.

Small intelligence rise.

Small spirit rise.

Skills:

Armor appraisal.

Item box calculation.

Cook Lvl

Effects:

Small dexterity rise. (TN : in cooking skill 器用小上昇)

Small physical strength rise.

Small agility rise.

Skills:

Drop rate for rare ingredients increase.

Item box operation (TN : Not sure about this one because it's like he is always saying this : ボックス操作)

The number of jobs increased.

A weapon merchant, an armor merchant, and a cook.

To be frank, all these skills and effects are questionable.

Because I have “Judgement”, both weapon merchant and armor merchant have no effective use.

At the very least, the effect, small intelligence rise, is good

I would be overjoyed if some nasty looting job existed (TN : Not sure but i think it's the meaning of this : 派生ジョブがあつたりしたら厄介なことこの上ない。)

The increase of rare ingredients drop rate should be useful.

However, I would hate if I killed a bunch of Kobold and only got Kobold salt. (TN : I would hate it too ahah.)

Would it be alright if it's not a rare drop?

Even if it's a cook job, it seems to have no useful skill to make a dish.

The last skill may be used for the labyrinth exploration?

It would be good if we can keep the ingredients in the item box.

With three jobs, I can stack up to thirty pieces of thirty different items for each job.

You may think that's it's because I'm an Explorer Lv30

But the size of the item box suddenly became 60 x 30 when I attached another job which surprised me at first.

Because my job is Lv1, the size would be fixed regardless of the level.

Kaga Michio Male 17 years old

Explorer Lv30.

Hero Lv27.

Wizard Lv29.

Monk Lv26.

Cook Lv1.

Equipment:

Leather gloves.

Leather shoes.

Leather hat.

Wand.

Roxanne Girl 16 years old

Beast warrior Lv14

Equipment :

Scimitar

Leather gloves

Leather jacket

Leather hat

Sandals

Wooden Shield.

I do a trial with the cooking job.

However, even after I beat the enemies from the six floors, they didn't drop any rare ingredients.

I don't know whether the olive oil you can buy at the guild is regarded as ingredients, but it wouldn't be rare at least.

The mino didn't drop any of it either

It's a useless cow.

I decide to push forward the search as much as I can.

Because I understood that it was troublesome to set up hot water, I decided to do it only when we took a bath or if something special come up.

Now it's a suitable time to advance to the next floor.

Thanks to me being enthusiastic the exploration of the labyrinth advanced smoothly, and the sixth floor was passed in no time.

By chance there was a room with the boss nearby.

It's troublesome, so I thought I might only fill and heat the bath at special times, but since it's hard to do it's best to plan for it.

Things don't always go the way we want.

Every floor of the Labyrinth has the same setup. There's always monsters to fight, and then a boss to defeat.

We cleared it with no problems.

Escape goat Lv7

Escape goat Lv7

The demons of the seventh floor seem to be an escape goat.

"I have heard that Escape Goat runs away. Maybe it's better not to use

magic and to knock it down with your sword, Master”

Even if Roxanne warned me, I activated my magic.
It's too late anyways.

Does the goat escape according to his name?

However, the escape goat comes without running away.
Roxanne stepped forward, facing the goat.
I prepared Durandal in the meantime.

The escape goat does not look that ferocious, but it looks stern.
The goat didn't look pretty at all.
The head's horn is bigger than a cheep sheep.
It has an ominous looking upward curve.

I sneaked around to the left and let the goat meet with Durandal
I cut it right in the middle of the body but it wasn't enough to defeat him.
When it comes down to lvl7 it seem that Durandal and a shot from magic
isn't enough to defeat them.

The Escape Goat holds it's head low.
As soon as it watches me moving the goat is rushing me head on.
I turned around suddenly and avoided the dash of the goat.
I did it just in time.

The goat went between Roxanne and me.
However, the demon did not stop.
As soon as he went to the other side he began to run.

Ooopps !
The escape Goat escaped.

I swing Durandal in a hurry but it couldn't reach any more.
There is no possibility to chase him in time, so i have to rely on magic.
I invoked [fire storm]
Sparks fly as my second spell is activated.

As long as I can see the demon, I can attack him.
The demon is covered in fire and falls down.
What a relief...

It seems that the amount of damage from Durandal and Magic was enough.

Roxanne is still fighting, the second one did not run away yet.
I driven in Durandal from the side.
The demon falls, It becomes smoke and it disappears.
I killed him with a single blow.

I seem to be able to knock down the escape Goat lv7 with two magic and a blow from Durandal.
The fact that it's running away is really troublesome.

The next one Roxanne found was a cheep sheep Lv7.
Because it's only one of them, i engage with a [fire ball].
I did two then three shots, while watching Roxanne keeping the front busy while avoiding the offensive coming from the sheep.
I go around the side and i shot the fourth and fifth balls.

"I'm afraid it's at least five shot from magic for a Lv7."
"I guess that's how it is for the seventh floor."

It's easy to say.
It's necessary to face the demon for a long time to knock it down.
When a fight lasts long, the number of chances the enemy has to hit also increases.

Even with Roxanne to support me, it isn't easy.
We should take the conquering of the seventh floor slowly seeing this course of events.

I tried to intercept the escape Goat who appeared in front of us with magic
When i did the third shot, it turned around and started to run.
Perhaps it doesn't run away at random, but will escape when receiving a certain amount of damage.
The conditions are : two magics are okay and the third will make him run.

Because of the physical strength it seems to have, i would need 5 emissions of magic to take it down.
After i hit it with 2 shots, i tried to shoot it again three times when it

reached sword range.

It avoided the fifth fire ball.

The monster is escaping toward the back.

It is a nuisance to see him running away at the third shot.

Although, it is alright if yo uses storm type of magic.

“It is a troublesome demon”

“It doesn’t want to fight much”

“That’s right, it’s a bit annoying, but if other demons show up let’s prioritize them”

After shooting two magics, it is possible to take it out with Durandal.

I don’t want to avoid it specially and it becomes a good balance with MP and efficiency.

An extra burden is added for Roxanne in the vanguard but there is no helping it.

Even if you say it’s troublesome the only thing the escape goat is doing is running away.

It seems the seventh floor will be a bit of a struggle.

Demons from the seventh floor of Quratar’s labyrinth even moved here.

The demon from Quratar’s labyrinth is a Slow Rabbit Lv7.

It made me nostalgic, I fought a Slow Rabbit back in the forest near the first village.

It seems to mean that there was a labyrinth in that forest and one of the monsters from the first floor is a slow rabbit?

Because there was no entrance, it’s a child labyrinth which didn’t have 50 floors yet.

The attacks from the slow rabbit are slow, and it’s only a body crash type of attack, it’s easy to fight it barehanded.

Is it the same for the one’s from the seventh floor of Quratar’s Labyrinth?

The demon jumped when i approached it.

I’m happy to encounter one of them after all this time.

It seems that any demons in the labyrinth are active and attack whenever they see a person.

I destroyed him with 5 shots of magic.
So the slow rabbit Lv.7 needs the same amount of shots as other demons on the floor.

The slow rabbit can drop a rare ingredient, it's rabbit meat.
The time when the cook's ability is demonstrated had finally come.
I thought I had it but then it's a rabbit fur that came out.

"It's a fur from a rabbit? Do you think think a merchant is willing to buy it in the merchant place?"
"In case of rabbit's fur, I think they buy it in a high quality clothing shop in the imperial capital."

Roxanne picks up the rabbit's fur and hands it to me.

"Is that so?"
"Yeah, they would, in a shop similar to the one you were at the other day Master."
"I wonder why they would buy rabbit fur."

The items that the demons from the early floors leave are common and a lot of people can get them for themselves, it is not that it is unusable, but there is a lot of stock if you go to the guild.
However, i heard that it was rare and there is a request especially going out.

I wonder, why would they buy rabbit's fur?

"It's because the coats which are made from rabbit fur are really strong against cold and it's good as a winter proof clothing and in particular, it seems to be really popular among the noble women that never go out without rabbit fur."

"I see."

"The atelier and the shop that makes the high quality clothing always compete to create coats with the latest style. Because a lot of wages rely on processing the slow rabbit's fur and i heard that it has a large amount of profit."

The women's fashion competition seems to be severe, even in this world. TN: Everywhere the girls are just some shopping maniacs (sorry i

had to say it)

Fur might even be a staple part of their fashion.

“Does Roxanne want a coat made from rabbit’s fur too?”

“I’m from the beast race, so I’m already strong against the cold, also a slave shouldn’t wear something like that”

“You are strong against the cold?”

“Yes”

In other words, the light clothes are all right.

Being lightly dressed looks really good on Roxanne

The clothes with a lot of exposures of skin, i think that clothes which show the curve from the chest are suited the highest.

Later, after eating rabbit meat for breakfast, i proceeded to the imperial capital, i went for the high quality shop.

The leftover rabbit meat was sold to Quratar’s butcher.

We killed around 40 Slow Rabbit’s and ended up with 4 Rabbit’s meat.

The cooking job increases the drop rate of rare ingredients, but it doesn’t seem to be much.

“Irasshaimase” (TN : Welcome)

When Roxanne and I entered the boutique in the imperial capital, the shop assistant lowered his head.

He is completely facing the ground in a really polite way.

As excepted of a high quality shop.

“I came here to sell you some rabbit’s fur”

“Would you follow me over here, please?”

I am led to a place to meet with the cashier, i enter the shop and head to the back.

“Hello, how may i help you?”

“The customer is here to sell rabbit’s fur”

The talk from the assistant woman with the cashier succeeded.

“Can you show us the rabbit’s fur?”

“Here”

I took out the rabbit's fur and placed it over the tray, after taking everything out it covered the whole tray.

"It's 34 pieces in total, is it fine?"

The cashier inspects every item one by one, then nods once and bring them inside the back and came out with another tray.

On the tray is 8 silver coins and a large amount of copper coins

A piece of fur is 20 nars, for 34 piece with 30 % up it reach 884 nars

There should be eighty-four copper coins.

I receive the payment without counting it because it's troublesome and I wouldn't be cheated in a luxury store.

"Alright, I received the payment"

"Thank you, we are looking forward to your next visit."

The male at the cash register did the most respectful salutation. It's a good attitude considering I'm not a customer.

The guest is put at honor in such a shop and they probably doesn't welcome many explorer's or adventurer's, considering that in a high quality shop in the imperial capital the main visitors are noble women.

As I have a little improper feeling, I try to go out of the shop.

A line of clothes aside from me entered in my line of sight.

Clean beautiful clothes with glossy luster, probably the clothes for women.

It seems to have a thin shoulder strap.

it's a camisole.

When i took it in my hand to have a look here was a nice skirt with a good length, it's a camisole dress.

Is the cloth in satin? It's really thin. Though it is not transparent, it's subtle in certain places.

"This is really popular among aristocratic women and the like. It is used as underwear and nightshirts"

The female assistant who has come out first explained to me.

It seems to not be the kind of product a man would stare at.

I hastily put back the clothes.

“How is it?”

Roxanne asked me.

“Well that’s...”

The clothes are not bad, Roxanne looks good with light clothes, and if she was to wear it on top of the skin.

“It would really suit you, how much is it?”

“It’s really cheap with the price of eight hundred nars”

High quality is expensive, it’s more than the whole clothes we have except for the accessories i wear right now.

I thought it would be even higher because it’s silk, but it’s not that much.

“How about we buy two of them? Which one do you want?”

“I want this one”

I nodded and let Roxanne choose.

She took the one i watched at the beginning.

Because it’s a high quality store the colours are really good.

Blue feels soft.

Red has a little harsh feel.

Green is really a nice colour.

Yellow, pale but beautiful is also a good color.

Black, although it is black it’s also a good.

“I like the color of the first one”

Roxanne pointed at the pink one.

The pink one is lovely, it’s not shocking pink but pale pink.

“Certainly”

“Please”

Roxanne chooses slowly and carefully while talking with the assistant.

“I am impressed, it looks like it would tear apart immediately but it has been produced carefully”

“Yeah, it is, because it’s a good fabric”.

“How do you wash it?”

“You lightly stroke it with your hand in the water.”

After all, it’s two of them, the white one and the pink one.
I bought it with thirty percent discount.

I think that i have successfully fallen into a trap from the shop side.
The polite attitude wasn’t the thing causing the bad feeling here.
In the vicinity of the cash register, cheap small articles that explorers
seem to be able to buy were placed there.
I think that this sales strategy has been completed really well.

Even with this, it was probably not a bad purchase.

Later I looked at Roxanne who wore the light pink colored camisole
after the bath and strengthened my thought.
It was definitely not a bad purchase.
A wonderful piece.

“Wow i love it! It really suits you”
“Thank you Master”

The light pink color slightly changes the color of Roxanne’s skin.
Roxanne was delicate and elegant, I kindly hugged her.
Surrounding the wet body of Roxanne, i did not just hug her, I also caress
the lines of her body.

I’m sinking into two big masses of mountains.
I mean stuck, and lifting them.
They are lifted by the terrible ero activity coming from inside me.

At the summit there is a tiny bump.
It’s the rare ingredient part of the fruit.

When put under the light with thin clothes the swelling of the chest is
ferocious.
The power is different.
Because it’s Roxanne’s chest, it’s also wonderful when it’s not dressed, but
because it’s a single piece of clothe, the feeling coming from the chest

increases.

The clothes are neat and clean but contain something violent.
Shining lustrously combined with the glossy piece of silk.
After all, i think that what i bought was good.

“Ahh this is the best”

“Um, wh....”

The argument was sealed inside her mouth.

Uhhhh ~

It cannot be helped i was at my limit.

I just finished with the bath a while ago but it looks like i just have to go
for a second round.

Chapter 44: Alchemy

*

The Escape Goat that appears on Vale Labyrinths seventh floor is quite troublesome.

It runs away after three blows from magic or a single blow from Durandal.

When more than one appear, I have to quickly use five casts of [Fire Storm] to defeat them before they escape.

Even then, there is still the chance they will get away.

It's even harder if they come out in a group with other monsters. The timing of casting the fifth spell might be too slow if I have to exchange blows with a demon that came with it.

It's best to use Durandal as a finisher.

First you use two magic shots.

Then you swing Durandal & the Escape Goat is killed.

The rest of the demons can be defeated without Durandal and only using magic.

There's no room for error.

Even so, the efficiency is quite good.

Well, I guess I don't really know for sure if the efficiency is good.

How fast does a fight need to be to make up for decreasing my [increased experienced] stat?

I can use the [10x increased experience] stat while using magic, but I've had to stop using [10x increased experience] to use Durandal on the Escape Goat's so killing other demons is might be better.

Well, as long as the level of my Cook job is increasing I'm not really worried.

“So, you can't use magic while using the sword?”

Roxanne asked while picking up the Goat Thread which was dropped by the Escape Goat.

It was the item I expected.

“It’s usable, but it will be less efficient. Is it causing trouble for Roxanne?”

“No, I am fine.”

“You’re very good as a vanguard, and you help me a lot.”

“Thank you.”

Sometimes Roxanne has to keep demons busy while I take time to get out Durandal.

I have a very high opinion of Roxanne’s agility.

She’ll almost never get hit even when fighting two or three demons.

I don’t know what things will be like in the future though. Demon groups on the eighth floor can have up to four demons. It’s something I need to think about.

Slow Rabbit’s started appearing on Quratar’s seventh floor and leave Rabbit furs.

To sell the furs we’ve been making a regular trip to the imperial capital. There’s quite a variety of shops in the capital.

It’s because of the large amount of people that there is such a variety.

The furs are sold off as we walk around.

There’s a seasoning shop.

It has vinegar and fish sauce.

I was excited to taste it, but it didn’t taste anything like soy sauce.

The smell of it isn’t good either.

It reminds me of something from the Honshu area.

It might be good to cook pork with.

People open stall’s in the imperial capital’s main street to sell stuff as well.

Fast food in this world is limited to night stalls.

There’s a pizza style shop, and a crepe shop, and a shop selling chicken meat on sticks too.

There’s stalls making stuff and selling it straight away.

One stall has a food that’s a brown fried sort of color.

There’s a lot of children gathering there, is it cheap candy?

“Do you know what they are selling there?”

“I’m not sure.”

“Want to try some?”

I leave Roxanne and go stand in line.

While looking at the cheap brown candy I saw something like a wafer.

Is there such a thing here?

“They are 10 nars each.”

“I’ll take two.”

After ordering, the worker poured some kind of liquid into a small pan.

The wafer is in there and disappears into the liquid.

Will it be some kind of sponge?

Soon the liquid begins to expand.

A thick mountain appears in the pan.

The nearby children start cheering.

“It’s done.”

The workman removes it from the pan.

He wraps it in some kind of leaf and passes it to me.

I take out some nars and pay for it.

He’s a villager so my 30% discount doesn’t apply.

One is given to Roxanne.

The second one I passed to a cute girl nearby.

“Would you like this?”

“Yes.”

There’s no real reason.

It’s just a cute girl.

After that she waved cheerfully and left.

“Was it good?”

“The taste is unusual.”

I know what it is.

It’s caramel.

I learnt to make it in junior high school.

I don't really remember the taste though.

I'm not sure if I could judge if it's exactly the same even if I try it now. I just have a memory of not thinking it was very delicious.

"It's sweet and delicious."

Oh wow, Roxanne is enthusiastically filling her mouth. It has a similar feeling to a modern Japanese high school student eating cake. I watch the stall from nearby as I wait for Roxanne to finish.

When caramel melts from the heat of bicarbonate soda in liquid the carbonate acid dissipates and causes swelling. I think that the stall making the cheap sweets uses the same method. When the pan is warmed, the liquid swells rapidly.

The worker turns to the back as I watch.

A small box is opened, and something is taken out.

A powder was taken out, and placed in a tub of water. The liquid which becomes the origin of the caramel has been created.

Chance.

I use [Judgement] on the box.

It seems I can't identify the powder.

If some of the item is missing, like a handful of Kobald Salt, then it can no longer be identified and will also no longer go into the item box.

Kobold Sucrose

Shell Powder

I could work out that Kobald Sucrose and Shell Powder were components of the powder in the box.

Even if I ask the worker directly, he won't tell me because it's a business secret.

I don't want to make Caramel on it's own, so if I can find out the raw materials name then that's good enough.

Maybe the worker is mixing flour with the Kobald Sucrose and Shell Powder.

If sugar and bicarbonate of soda are mixed with flour then you can make caramel.

The Sucrose is sugar.

The Shell Powder must be bicarbonate of soda.

Shell powder = bicarbonate of soda = sodium hydrogencarbonate

“Ready to go?”

“Yes, Thank you for the delicious meal.”

I headed towards the adventurers guild with Roxanne when she finished eating.

“Do you know anything about Shell Powder?”

“It’s an extinguisher.”

“An extinguisher?”

“There isn’t any power to cancel out fire magic, but you can extinguish it as soon as possible and stop the fire from spreading as soon as possible with an extinguisher. With an extract from scallop shells and shell leaves you can counter-act the magic once.”

It’s different to bicarbonate of soda.

Well, the effects against magic shouldn’t matter.

“Can you mix it with flour and bake it, or use it for cleaning?”

“The Shell Powder?”

“Yes.”

“I haven’t heard anything like that.”

It’s different.

“Do you use vinegar to clean?”

“I haven’t heard of that.”

I asked just to check, but it seems even vinegar isn’t used.

There is vinegar in this world.

Vinegar is acidic, Bicarbonate of soda is an alkaline and both should be effective to wash off dirt.

If vinegar isn’t used for cleaning then the possibility they don’t know about using bicarbonate of soda for cleaning is high.

I bought some Shell Powder in the adventurers guild. I also bought a pan, and some wheat bran and then returned to the house.

I'm experimenting making caramel, though the main purpose isn't the caramel.

Soap can be made using rice bran.

When the fatty acids in the vegetable oil react with the bicarbonate of soda, then it should become soap.

While in a school group, I had to make it in front of a teacher on my own, so I remember how to do it.

Bad memories.

All the members of the group should have had to help out.

Anyway, if there is bicarbonate of soda, then I can make soap. Although it isn't right, rice bran should be able to be replaced with the vegetable oil.

First I'll try and use the wheat bran though.

Rice bran was probably only a substitute in the old days too.

After returning I went straight to the kitchen.

I brought half a pan of water to the boil.

If it works, this pan will be used exclusively for soap.

Shell Powder was put through the mill and added to the boiling water. Bubbles come out.

It seems correct that Shell Powder is bicarbonate of soda.

After the bubbles die down, the wheat bran is added. I'm just adding it gradually since I don't know how much. I recall that I had to add a lot of rice bran. It probably can't be helped if I fail at first.

As I mix it a brown muddy liquid forms. It seems to be going better than I expected. I'm starting to get worn out from stirring it.

"What is this?"

Roxanne had been cleaning, but came over out of interest.

“Soap.”

“Soap? Is it going well?”

“I’m not sure yet.”

“Making soap is amazing.”

I wouldn’t have even thought of trying to make it if I didn’t know how to make it.

Soap seems like it would be quite valuable in this world.

It will be quite useful if I can make it well.

“If you use the Shell Powder for cleaning then the dirt will come right off.”

“Really?”

“Yes.”

“I had no idea. I’ll try it now.”

“If you find dirt that the Shell Powder doesn’t work on, try using vinegar instead and it might work.”

Bicarbonate of soda is an alkaline and works extremely well against acidic dirt, but it’s not very effective against alkaline dirt.

Acidic vinegar is used on the alkaline dirt.

The Shell Powder seems to have numerous uses.

I remember hearing that the hot spring at Nagano, where I went for my skiing training camp during junior high school was a bicarbonate of soda spring, so I can probably try and add some to the bath.

“Well, how do I use it? Do I just have to rub it on?”

Even though Roxanne raced off with excitement, she returned straight away.

The idea of dissolving it in water doesn’t seem to exist here.

“No, you should try dissolving it in water and then using it for wiping.”

I’ve never actually tried it, it’s just general knowledge.

Well, I think it’s supposed to be dissolved in water.

“Master, this is amazing.”

Before long, Roxanne flies back in with her eyes sparkling.

It seems that I was right.

I take the pan off the fire.

This looks to be going well also.

It will be finished now once it's dry.

That night, it appears that my jobs have increased.

Alchemist Lv1

Effect: Small int rise, Medium dex rise, Skill – Plating.

An Alchemist.

Since making soap is a chemical reaction I likely got it from that.

The next morning I went to the Labyrinth.

I immediately tested out the Alchemist.

Kaga Michio: 17 year old male. Explorer Lv32, Hero Lv30, Wizard Lv32, Monk Lv30, Cook Lv25, Alchemist Lv1.

Equipment: Leather Gloves, Leather Armor, Leather Hat, Leather Shoes, Wand.

Roxanne: 16 year old female. Beast Warrior Lv18

Equipment: Sandals, Leather Jacket, Leather Hat, Wooden Shield, Scimitar.

I'm over-straining my points a bit and using the sixth job this time. Monk is for emergencies, and Cook is for the rare ingredient drops from the Slow Rabbit.

My bonus points are currently distributed like this:

[Required Experience decreased to 10%] 31 points.

[Increased experience by 10x] 31 points.

[Crystallization increased by 32x] 31 points.

[Sixth Job] 31 points.

[Incantation omission] 3 points.

[Job Settings] [Judgement] [Character reset] 1 point each.

A total of 130 points.

When I don't have the sixth job I use [5x MP recovery Speed].

When I became Explorer Lv31 and started to use the sixth job I started

having to use Durandal more often for MP recovery.

The [MP Recovery Speed] skill probably is based on my natural recovery rate.

There is a noticeable difference when I go up to 5x.

Even so, the difference isn't that extreme.

I went to the Labyrinth of Vale after breakfast to try out the Alchemist job.

Even if I use a sixth job instead of MP recovery speed the difference isn't really a problem.

The difference is that small.

"Since I'm experimenting, can you try to find a single demon?"

"Certainly."

"Thank you."

What experiment am I doing? The Alchemists skill. I'm testing out [Plating].

When I tried to use [Plating] it required a target, so it isn't a passive skill. I tried [Plating] the pocket knife and the leather equipment but it didn't work.

Maybe it can be used on something living, not an object.

The name sounds like it might be a defensive skill, but I can't rule out it being offensive so I'll try it on a demon first.

After [Plating] it, maybe it will become fragile and easy to break.

"May I ask what experiment you are doing this time?"

Roxanne spoke as we moved.

There have been a lot of experiments getting done since I met Roxanne. Even yesterday had the experiment to make soap.

When her master does an experiment she might be quite amazed.

"Do you know about the job Alchemist?"

"Um, they are people who try to create money."

They have that sort of person in this world?

Well, if you get the alchemist job from doing a chemical reaction then maybe it's natural.

Aiming to make money with a chemical reaction is alchemy.

“This test is about the alchemist job.”

“Can you make money?”

Roxanne opened her eyes wide.

“No, yes, well, I’m not sure...”

Since there is magic in the world there may be a skill that produces money.

Or maybe not, the value of money would drop significantly if there was such a skill.

Or, it might be an extremely well kept secret.

Well, for now the only thing I can do is test [Plating].

Plating is that thing.

Covering something in brass and telling people that it’s gold.

It’s just fake.

“Here’s one.”

While lost in my own thoughts, Roxanne gets my attention.

A Slow Rabbit appeared, and I tried to activate [Plating] on it.

There doesn’t seem to be any changes on the Slow Rabbit.

Isn’t it an attack skill?

In the end it still took five spells to kill the Slow Rabbit Lv7.

It seems like it isn’t an attack skill.

I tried attacking one with Durandal instead of magic, but there still didn’t seem to be an effect.

If it’s an attack skill, does it have special conditions? Or is the Slow Rabbit resistant to it?

Later, after breakfast, we head to Vale Labyrinth’s second floor.

I put my bonus points into Intellect and found that I could kill something with one spell.

Previously it was impossible to kill something in one spell even with 99 bonus points into Intellect, so my spells have become stronger as my level went up.

I tried [Plating] a Needle Wood Lv2.
I wasn't able to defeat it in one shot.

So it seems that Plating is a defensive skill.
If you consider the name, perhaps it is a skill that makes a defensive covering.

Since it still took 5 spells to defeat the Lv7 Slow Rabbit, it seems that the decrease in damage is less than 20%.

I thought of it, but I'm not sure.

Maybe Plating only works once?

If it's a defensive layer, maybe it breaks after the first attack?

It should be easy to test.

After [Plating] the Needle Wood, Roxanne attacks it once with the Scimitar, and then I attack it once with magic.

It's defeated in a single spell.

It seems to decrease the damage of one blow.

It is not possible to defeat it if the Scimitar is the second attack.

If Roxanne attacks it first, and then it's plated again, it is not possible to defeat it with a [Fireball].

Since the plated Needle Wood isn't able to be defeated with one spell even with 99 bonus points in Intellect I can't be certain how much the damage reduction really is.

I continued to experiment with [Plating] as we moved through the floor.
I got a rough understanding of the skill.

[Plating] is a one attack only defense skill.

It doesn't matter if it's against magic or physical attacks.

There is no effect from additional casts before being hit.

The damage reduction is probably between 10% and 20%.

It isn't strong, but it's still a valuable defensive skill.

I will regularly use it in the future.

Chapter 45: Soap

*

The soap is still fairly soft after nearly one day's time.

Is it properly hardening like this?

For the middle school experiment, if I'm not mistaken, the teacher had hardened them in the refrigerator and immediately they were all used up playing. I don't know how much drying is needed.

After dinner, the thing more than being called soap, it looks like butter, is applied to the towel and I try washing Roxanne.

I have naked Roxanne stand in the bathroom.

Roxanne has a good figure.

In its own way tall yet slim and long slender limbs.

Her chest as if it isn't enough is violently equipped and full bodied.

From her hips, her thigh's line also slopes gently. She has a narrow waist and a tail.

"Erm. Master first."

"No. It's an experiment, so."

Roxanne who said that thoughtlessly is swiftly silent.

Was she thinking for what purpose did I make the soap?

To wash Roxanne.

Even though that's the sole purpose that I made it for.

I want to wash Roxanne immediately. I want to cover her in foam.

Anything more than that must be firmly rejected.

In a firm manner, I reject Roxanne's offer.

"O-of course."

Seems Roxanne understands.

However if I think about it, I'm testing on a living person!

Because I don't know if I really was able to make soap.

Like not suiting the skin because it's too alkaline might be possible.

It'll be a problem if she turns like the Hare of Inaba. [1]

I rub it on the towel soaked in hot water and it forms bubbles.
First I try putting it on my hand.

The amount of foam is satisfactory.
It's good enough. But it's not to the level of the body shampoo at home;
more or less, there's no helping it.
My hand didn't sting or feel itchy.
Wouldn't that mean that I was able to make an adequate soap?

I try to spread it on my arm too.
Seems there's no problem.

"Then, extend out your arms."
"Yes."

I take hold of Roxanne's extended left hand.
I cover her supple hand in bubbles.
I insert my fingers in-between her fingers.
Little by little, moving up and down in a piston like motion. [2]

Somewhat it feels good.
It's a pleasant feeling, doing it gently.

"Just in case, since this is the first time and an experiment, if there's any
discomfort, tell me."
"Understood."

After washing her hand, I spread it on her arms.
After enjoying the tenderness of her upper arms, I move to the armpits.
[3]

Inserting my palms, I rub them many times over.
The towel is only used to take the produced foam from all of Roxanne's
washing which is done with my own bare hands.

Following the armpits, I move hurriedly to the long awaited base of the
mounts.

*As swift as the wind.[\[4\]](#)

Those violent mountains were standing calmly.

*As quiet as the forest.[\[4\]](#)

Moving towards the snow capped peaks, I cover them in white.

*As daring as fire.[\[4\]](#)

Whenever I wash them, I cause them to vibrate. The soap bubbles look like they shake and jiggle, is it my imagination?

T-this is amazing.

It wasn't my imagination.

While washing, shaking it a little, and the summits do immensely...

*As immovable as the mountain.[\[4\]](#)

Slowly, plentifully, thoroughly and carefully I finish washing her. Her stomach and neck are covered in foam too. Then I move to her back.

"Since today is the first time, I'll wash your back, hair and tail, but tomorrow won't."

"Is that so?"

"I heard soap is not good for the hair."

"Is that so???"

"Probably."

I think I heard that somewhere in the past.

That's why something like Shampoo was specially made; that shouldn't necessarily be wrong.

Undoubtedly it's better not to wash it daily.

I fully cover the fur on her back in bubbles.

Swaying and fluffy, I knead with both my hands.

Continuing from the back, I wash her tail.

While rubbing the tail's fur between both hands, I carefully wash it.

Being silky smooth and soft, it feels good.

Her lower half is washed without reservations. With my own hands.

After covering everywhere in foam, I go towards her head.

I take some foam from the hand towel and churns lively like if it was

boiling.

Not only do I wash her hair but also her dog ears. Normally I can touch them as much as I want; I must gratefully wash them.

Both sides of her dog ears, the base section, the indented parts, etc. I rub them all with my fingers so there's no place unwashed.

I let go of her ears and the foam drips from her hair onto her face. Roxanne closes her eyes.

Confirming that she keeps her eyes closed while washing her hair, I am enjoying her full body.

Subsequently at last, I wash her face and cheeks too.

I completely cover her in bubbles.

Like wearing clothes made of white foam, it's strangely charming.

Is it because here and there, there's bare skin visible?

The foam is giving a sexy impression of torn clothes.

Or, is it after all just because of the foam?

Holding her with my hands, I can touch her bare skin.

"...E-ermm."

Oh no.

Without thinking, I embrace her.

It's what they call an irresistible force.

"Doing like this, one can efficiently wash with very little soap. In my home town, it is a traditional way of washing between a man and woman intimately."

I enumerate a bunch of lies.

Because of this occasion, I rub with all my heart; I get my fill of Roxanne covered in bubbles.

The combined feeling of moist skin and slippery soap is extremely pleasant.

"Is that so?"

"That's right."

I forcefully affirm it.

My heart aches a bit at Roxanne being so obedient, but there's no helping it.

As for everything, the first time is critical.

But actually, finished washing in general, after demanding to do that, I might be considered a pervert. [\[5\]](#)

If from the beginning, imprinting that this is normal, next time too, there shouldn't be any resistance.

“W-well then, I will now wash Master's body.”

Roxanne shyly moves her hands around my back.

As expected, precedence is necessary.

I entrust everything to Roxanne to wash.

Beyond that foam, the bouncy mountains are rampaging.

Even under normal circumstances, those violent bulges that are foul play are used too.

Awesome.

“Thanks. It feels good to be washed by Roxanne!”

“Erm. If you're okay with it.”

I'm washed everywhere by Roxanne.

No. Things like the hair, the hair.

“Then I'll start rinsing.”

After being washed, hot water is drawn with the bucket and slowly poured from the top of the head.

The foam is washed away from the whole body.

We alternately draw hot water and wash it off.

“It feels good being so smooth.”

After washing off the soap, Roxanne strokes her own arm.

She delightfully smiles from ear to ear. It seems satisfying.

“No problems!?”

“Yes, I'm alright. Somehow I feel like I've been reborn.”

“You’re pretty to begin with. I think you haven’t changed much.”

“T-thank you.”

Eh?

Right now, should I have said something like “You’re pretty to begin with, but now you have become beautiful”?

As expected to praise her to such extent.

In reality, is it ok to say “You’re beautiful to begin with; even now your beauty hasn’t changed much.”?

The next morning, with a body feeling refreshed from being washed with soap, we enter Quratar’s Labyrinth.

The refreshed feeling is from being washed with soap; there’s no other ulterior motive.

Although I can’t completely deny it.

At times like this, feeling so good, one can think something nice might happen.

While thinking that, I eat the full ramming attack from the Slow Rabbit.

Damn!

Because of this good mood, I shouldn’t have been any less careful than normal days.

Because I properly applied [Plating], to some extent, there is very little impact.

I strike it with the wand in a fit of anger. I start casting a fourth [Fire Storm].

After shooting the fifth shot, I’m alright.

The fire embers dance; the monster is beaten.

The Slow Rabbit that dealt the ramming attack disappears into smoke.

It serves you right!

Staring at the visage flying.

Thereupon, the smoke dissipates and a small thing that’s neither rabbit fur nor rabbit meat is left behind.

Eh? This is the first I’ve seen!

“Master, you have done it. It’s a Monster Card.”

Roxanne jumps at it before I could even use [Analyze] to know what it is.

Oh! So this is a Monster Card?

[Monster Card Rabbit]

No doubt even with [Analyze].

It’s a card the same size as an Intelligence Card.

It’s similar to the Intelligence Card of the thieves; there’s nothing written on it.

“This is the so called?”

“Yes. This is my first time seeing it too.”

“Even though it’s your first time seeing one, you immediately understood it’s a Monster Card.”

“Because I’ve heard about them.”

Just hearing about it, you knew?

But it’s some sort of card no matter how you look it.

“Is that so too?”

“Because of Master steadily clearing the monsters, I thought we would eventually get to see one, but seeing one so soon, I’m impressed.”

For someone entering a labyrinth, this could be considered one of the objectives.

Up till now, even though we have hunted a fair amount of monsters, not one had dropped before; it’s a pretty rare drop.

It probably can be sold for a lot.

However, I don’t plan to sell this Monster Card yet.

It should be able to be installed in an equipment’s empty slot.

But for that purpose, we somehow need a Master Smith.

To fuse the monster card to an equipment, the skill of a Master Smith is needed and only dwarves can become them.

The opportunity comes up soon after.

At the time we finish exploring Quratar’s labyrinth, the magic crystal has

become yellow.

A yellow magic crystal.

Seems you can sell it for 100,000 Nars.

This should be able to turn into minimum funding.

If one is expensive as Roxanne.

“Later today, I plan to go to Vale Town”

At breakfast, I convey my plans.

First I must go to the Slave Trader’s place to ask some things.

“Is there any business you have to attend?”

“Well, there’s some with the trading company”

For Roxanne, the Slave Trading Company shouldn’t be a good place.

“In the trading company?”

“First, I want to go make my will. Roxanne has done very well. I’m planning on releasing Roxanne if I die.”

When a Master dies, what happens to the slave can be put in the testament.

In case there’s no special testament, it seems they follow him to the grave.

I can’t let Roxanne go through that.

It’s useful against slaves baring their fangs against their masters, but it shouldn’t be needed for Roxanne.

“Thank you very much. However, is it alright to talk about such a thing?”

“Well. I wonder if Roxanne needs to be present when making a will. You’ll end up knowing, so there’s no problem. If Roxanne isn’t needed to be present when making a will, because it can be altered secretly, even if I told you, your attitude wouldn’t change. That’s why I think there’s no problem even if I talk about it.”

I don’t know if Roxanne needs to be present when making the will; it’s better if I bring her today.

“I see, that’s so. Of course, my attitude wouldn’t change.”

“I understand. That’s as a general consideration.”

Actually, I haven’t hypothesized that Roxanne would back stab me.
Or should I say satisfied with being stabbed?

“For a testament, I think a slave doesn’t need to be present.”

“Is that so?”

“Yes. And also…”

Roxanne lowers her voice.

“Umm?”

“If you can trust me, please do not leave a will.”

Abruptly, Roxanne says something.

What do you mean?

I mostly didn’t understand the meaning.

That I don’t leave a will.

“Eh? Why?”

“I will protect Master. I will not let Master be defeated before me.”

Roxanne decisively declares it.

I stop biting the grilled rabbit meat schema and stare at Roxanne.

She isn’t showing a face like she was telling a joke.

It appears that she’s serious.

“W-well. But of course I’m relying on Roxanne.”

“If I survive without being able to protect my Master, it’s a disgrace to a warrior.”

“I understand, but the testament is another matter.”

“If you can let this slave protect you till its last breath, that’s a sign of trust in that said reliance.”

Is that kind of thing?

But the reason I feel is a bit strange.

“Well, I think I’m happy about it, but there could be a heart attack too.”

“Haart Attack?”

“It is a heart illness. I can’t deny that one can die suddenly.”

Seems like she doesn't know what a heart attack is.

"It is alright. There is no need for Master to become worried."

"Erm... seriously?"

"Yes."

Seems like it's really written. [\[6\]](#)

Looking at Roxanne's face, one can't think it's a joke.

Is this what it feels like when a Knight pledges to his Lord?

In terms of the state of cultural development, that's probably the closest thing.

"If Roxanne wants to do that, do so, but..."

"Thank you."

"But why?"

"I think Master is a magnificent person. Young and strong and with abilities. With all due respect, you will accomplish splendid things. Nevertheless you treat me affectionately. This kindness, I must pay it back."

Is this like a Feudal Lord and his loyal Samurai in Japan's Edo Period after all?

As for Roxanne, probably she's yearning for something like that.

In that case, isn't that a bad thing if I accept it?

"I understand. However, I must say something. I don't think I'll accomplish anything."

"I do not think so."

"Rather, I'm here because I won't achieve anything."

I, who is not a human of this world, if I move recklessly, I could possibly create chaos.

I must avoid that.

I must be cautious from overestimating my abilities and being caught in the moment commit an imprudent action.

Like the fire that is isolated will not spread and disappear, I ought to disappear like the fire that doesn't spread.

“I do not understand it well.”

“It’s ok if you don’t understand. Just keep thinking that way.”

“Certainly.”

I forcefully make Roxanne agree while she is tilting her head confused.

“But I’ll still go to the trading company in Vale. It’s time we think about increasing the party members. I wanted to ask if there is any good warrior. There’s no need to force Roxanne to come if I don’t need to leave a will. In the 8th floor, 4 monsters are the biggest group that appears. As expected, it should be difficult with two members. Since I need to constantly take in and out my sword, I won’t be able to constantly cope with it. If there’s someone else beside Roxanne at the front, it’ll be safer.”

The atmosphere turns sensitive, but I talk about the original purpose. I felt awkward after what Roxanne said about a will not being needed, but...

Because of feeling guilty, it looks like suddenly I become talkative.

No. it’s not that the next party member has necessarily been decided to be a female.

If the vanguard is a dwarf that could become a Master Smith, there’s the possibility that it could be a bearded old man.

Being flanked by two beauties with Roxanne or so. However, that’s of course what I yearn.

When waking up in the morning with beautiful girls on each arm.

In the bath being washed from the front and back with Roxanne.

Damn. That’s nice.

However, it’s not like I have prepared plenty of funds.

A slave with Roxanne’s level of requirements would be expensive.

Beautiful with good personality and regarding the labyrinth being very useful.

I shouldn’t compromise with the party members, but there’s no helping it if the next one is an old man.

“That is excellent. Certainly, if we both go up, it should be about time it got more difficult for us.”

Roxanne appears to be positive too.

It's ok to try to think about it.

We don't know what could happen inside a labyrinth.

We could fall in a situation where we need to sacrifice someone to prevent the party from being wiped out.

At that time, having an old man would be useful.

If there is an old man, it's virtually been decided whom to sacrifice.

Without a moment's delay, I can make a decision.

Roxanne and I may be able to escape in those moments.

Thanks, old man. I'm indebted to you, old man.

I won't forget the old man's noble spirit.

I'll keep living thanks to the old man's sacrifice.

No more old man!

"You think likewise?"

"Yes. About that, is it alright if I accompany you there?"

"Just in case, I'll try to ask Roxanne for your opinion. Because I don't know or understand a lot of things, it should be helpful if you have any advice."

I want to see what Roxanne's reaction is if I decide to choose a female. If she looks to be against it, there's no way it can be forced.

"Understood. Well then, let's go together."

"Please."

But if I think that an old man will be in the same party with Roxanne, for some reason, I could get excessively annoyed.

If he does something like staring at her chest, he'll be punished with instant death.

The old man is forbidden from looking at Roxanne; he's forbidden from talking to her; he's even forbidden from breathing the same air as Roxanne.

Such rules must be necessary. [\[7\]](#)

There's the possibility that Roxanne's glamorous figure in a negligee

will be seen if we all live together.

As expected, an old man is no good. No more old man!

I must limit party members to girls.

Notes:

[1] TL Note: Hare of Inaba or White Rabbit of Inaba

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Hare_of_Inaba

[2] TL Note: You pervs, it sounds like it but he isn't doing that... yet.

Panda: Where is our hunting squad? The teasing is getting ridiculous.....

[3] TL Note: I didn't know Michio had such fetishes.

Panda: Not surprised. Hentai alarm went off several chapters ago.....like a lot of chapters.

[4] TL Note: These 4 marked phrases are known in Japan as Fūrinkazan (風林火山) which said 'as swift as the wind, as quiet as the forest, as daring as fire, and as immovable as the mountain', which themselves are based on 4 out of 6 phrases in Sun Tzu's The Art of War Chapter 7, passage 17 to 19. Fūrinkazan (風林火山) is famous for being used on the battle flags of Takeda Shingen, a Feudal Lord in the Sengoku period.

[5] Panda: So he knows, so he knows.

[6] TL Note: implied written (on her face)

[7] Panda: Possessive much?

Chapter 46: Re-visiting

*

After exploring Vale's Labyrinth, we went out to Vale's Adventurers guild.

We entered the Labyrinth to stockpile some items.

Since the 30% bonus to sale price is effective in the guild, a yellow crystal worth 100,000 nars will sell for 130,000 nars.

An increase of 30,000 nars is quite a bit, so I'm worried the guild staff may have doubts.

They might be able to notice easily because the number of gold coins will be 13.

To try and decrease suspicion, it might be a good idea to sell off a large quantity of items at the same time.

I also need to think about the place I'm selling to.

Since I'm selling a magic crystal for the first time there isn't a problem, but if I bring the next one here they might be suspicious about the speed I made it.

With the 32X increase to magic crystallization skill, I can collect magic 32X faster than everyone else.

It would be better to sell it in the confusion of a busy place.

"Can I sell the magic crystal in the Adventurers guild?"

"Yes, I think that it is possible in any guild."

Roxanne confirmed it.

If I can sell it in the Adventurers Guild, then I can sell the crystals off in another four places. Both the Adventurers guild and Explorers guild in the Imperial capital and Quratar.

With this I can rotate around the additional four places.

If I mix in some other towns as well it will be perfect.

The yellow crystal was put on the tray at the counter of Vale's Adventurers guild.

Other items are put on top of it to hide it.

“I’d like to sell these.”

“Sure.”

The 30ish year old woman accepted the tray, and went to the inner guild area.

Waiting was nerve wracking.

She came back. Was that about the same time as usual? Was it longer than usual?

I quickly counted that there were thirteen gold coins on the tray.

The woman does not look like she has any suspicions.

It seems it’s all fine.

I quickly put the gold coins into the item box.

The silver and copper coins I put into the drawstring bag, and left the counter.

“Let’s go.”

“Yes.”

Basically, the staff at the counter don’t seem to comment about the amount of money in the sale.

Since it’s an income source for the Adventurers & Explorers guilds they probably don’t think anything of it.

If it’s scrutinized they can get to know one’s living standards and other things.

Without touching the subject, they could practically already have a grasp of it.

I went out and had my first walk through Vale in a long time.

There doesn’t really seem to be any changes.

“I want to meet the Slave Trader.”

We arrived in front of the Slave Traders business, and spoke to the man who came out.

I can’t remember the slave traders name.

“This way please.”

The man went inside once, and then came back and guided us in.

We were taken to the back room.

Why is that?

I was taken to the room I first saw when I came to sell the village thief who became a slave.

Does it seem like I came here to sell Roxanne?

I glanced towards Roxanne, but I can't see any changes in her expression.

It seems she feels safe even in the slave traders building she was in previously.

I sat down, but Roxanne remained standing.

Why?

At this time it's better if you don't sit next to me?

"You're standing?"

"Yes, I think it gives a better impression."

Roxanne's judgement is probably better than mine, I don't have a clue. I nodded towards her and left her as is.

"Welcome Michio."

The slave trader came straight into the room. I checked his name with [Analyze]. That's it. It's Alan.

"Sorry to have turned up so suddenly Alan."

"Don't worry about it. Please come any time you like."

I stood to greet him, and then he gestured for me to sit down. An employee brings out two herbal tea's, and places one in front of me and the other in front of the slave trader. There doesn't seem to be any for Roxanne. Is that because they think I came to sell her, or just because they know she's a slave?

"Roxanne has been doing quite well, you've sold me a great warrior and you have my gratitude."

For a start, I clarify that I did not come here to sell.
It'll be troublesome if there's some awkward interaction or atmosphere.

“Thank you for your kind words.”
“Your recommendation was spot on.”
“There's no problems?”
“None.”

Since the person we are talking about is here, I wouldn't want to say anything bad anyway.
The slave trader probably understands that.

“That's great.”
“Since Roxanne has worked out so well, I'll be thinking about another party member soon.”
“I understand.”
“I was wondering, is it possible to purchase a Master Smith?”

It might be an issue that I've exposed my intentions, but it can't be helped.
I had to ask.
It won't be possible for me to find out without talking.

“You want a Master Smith?”
“That's right.”
“Well... it isn't impossible... but it's quite... difficult.”

The slave trader answered me while thinking.
It might be difficult since it's for a specific job.

“I understand.”
“Are you aware that the fusion of monster cards is often a failure?”
“I know.”

“That won't change, even if the Master Smith is a slave. If it keeps failing, eventually the owner will start suspecting the slave. Even so, there are quite a lot of people such as nobles who want a Master Smith but none of those stories ever end with both of them being happy.”

So there are problems even when working with them directly?

You never know if the slave has stolen the monster card instead.
Well, I can understand the anger if failures continue to happen.

“I see.”

“Dwarves understand this, so before they become a slave they will often change their job to something other than a Master Smith.”

“So there are no slaves that are Master Smiths?”

“Well, it isn't that there are none, they do exist, but that also makes the price go up.”

So the price goes up because they are rare.

I would be angry as well if I paid a lot and failures kept happening.
It feels like the negatives just keep coming.

They have a bad reputation, so the amount of them decreases.

Since there isn't many of them, the price goes up.

If it's cheap they can give up easily, but people are angrier if they specially pay a high price and they don't succeed.

They vent their anger at the Master Smith slave, the bad reputation spreads, and the amount of Master Smiths decreases even more.

“I don't think you'd go that far desiring a Master Smith. How about a dwarf who isn't a Master Smith? Might be useful as a vanguard.”

Looks like it will be hard to buy a Master Smith.

It's still worth trying though.

I can request a Master Smith, but the chances of finding one are low.

However, since I have the [Party Job Setting] skill it doesn't have to be that job.

If the dwarf can get the job then it will be fine.

“They make good vanguards because the dwarf race is quite strong.”

“I see.”

Some of this I have already heard from Roxanne.

Just enough to keep up with the conversation.

Can I buy a dwarf slave? I haven't asked the important stuff yet.

I hesitated about if I should talk about that part with Roxanne.

Dwarves, dragon people, and beast people like Roxanne all seem to be suited to being a vanguard.

So, are humans just powerless?

“However, unfortunately we only have one dwarf here at the moment. I think based on her personality she isn’t cut out to be a fighter.”

“Oh, that’s too bad.”

He referred to her as female, but I can’t jump at just that.

Hearing it’s a female is my weakness.

I need to stay calm.

“I can write a letter to introduce you to other shops. Why not try some to see if they have a good dwarf?”

“You don’t mind if I do that?”

“It’s fine.”

“Even though it’s your competition?”

Don’t you want a customer like me?

Is it because I get things cheaply?

Because of my 30% discount?

“This business doesn’t really lack in customers coming to purchase. What I need is people coming here to sell. We also have our own routes to get stock, all of the Vale region and the southern plains are our trading area. Shops stocked in different regions aren’t really competitors and we help each other out when it’s needed.”

“So that’s how it is.”

Those in this line of work have their own circumstances.

“I’ll introduce you to a business I’m close to in the Imperial Capital, though at the current time they may be low on stock as well.”

“Oh?”

“Spring is the farming season.”

So there’s a high demand at the moment and it’s busy?

Nobody would put up a proper worker for sale while they are busy.

When the farming work is done, then the supply will go up.

Even for the farmers, it's not good to buy in a hurry when you're already busy.

It's necessary to prepare the slaves beforehand.

If they aren't at least that skilled, then getting slaves would be hard.

"Ah, I see."

I worked it out myself and came to my own understanding.

It doesn't matter if I'm wrong.

It doesn't change the fact that the market price is high at the moment because supply is a problem, compared to when business is slow and the price gets cheaper.

"There's a good shop doing business in the Imperial Capital that I'll introduce you to. I think you might be able to find something nice there."

"That would be good."

"Even if they don't have a dwarf, they might still have a good person who can serve as a vanguard."

"Yes, I'll take a look."

I made my request without saying anything odd.

It was well done.

Since this is a business for the slave trader, I would have thought he'd try to convince me to buy something.

"Since you've let me know what you're looking for I can hold onto one for you if I see one."

"I'd appreciate that."

When I was introduced to Roxanne, I mainly saw female slaves.

They didn't show off any talented men.

"They'll end up mostly males though."

"I understand."

There might be no helping it.

Should the forward be an old dude?

Any dwarf would be good, but there's always the chance to refuse.

"Thank you."

“Oh? I’d still like to see your dwarf as well.”

After saying that I feel I made a mistake.
I drew attention to the fact I was interested in the female dwarf.

“She just came recently.”

“I see.”

“Even though I say that, her memory is good and she has already learned the Brahim language, but the rest of her education is lacking.”

The slave trader seems slightly flustered.
His response was a bit hurried.
I see. Since he said she hasn’t been fully educated yet, is that a weak point?

I’m not worried since I was able to find out what the quality is like.

Roxanne seems to have learned the Brahim language and manners here too.

A slave who doesn’t learn it is not good.

The slave trader said what he needed to, and then left to prepare.
I let Roxanne sit down, and passed her the herbal tea since I hadn’t touched it.

When I came to pick up Roxanne I thought they might have drugged my drink, but I don’t have that worry anymore.

Judging from the results, the slave traders recommendation was spot on.
He feels like a merchant that can be trusted.

“Do you have any requests for the vanguard?”

“I think that it will be fine if they are to Master’s liking.”

I’m slightly embarrassed as I think about what I like.
After speaking with Roxanne about a variety of things, the slave trader returns.

“I’ll show you the male candidates first. Sorry, but she will have to wait here since the area is for men only.”

“Ok, I understand how things could get if a beautiful woman like Roxanne comes in.”

“...w-well.”

“Roxanne, please wait here.”

“I will.”

The stimulation might be too large if I bring her in front of the male slaves.

They were dropped to the position of slave and then kept locked away in the slave traders establishment. If that happened to me and then a beautiful woman like Roxanne showed up I'd cause a rebellion.

The slave trader guides me to the second floor.
We enter the room.

...Oh.

It's like a classroom here.

Reflexively everyone has a questioning expression.
Some will definitely be suitable for a vanguard.

Scary.
It might be impossible.
Ordering around guys like these would be too difficult.

It feels like I'm being attacked by their glares.
Is it alright to be in here? There won't be a revolt?
I'm glad I didn't bring Roxanne along, though it may have been necessary for a guard.

If they jump at me and I'm quick I can draw the copper sword at my waist.

I'm glad I left it there.

I'm in the castle. [TL Note: 殿中にござる (Denchuu de gozaru = I'm in the castle.) is a reference to historical plays, specifically the 47 ronins. That in the castle there are rules that must be followed, among them drawing weapons is forbidden, so it's a safe place. If broken the culprit must commit suicide, specifically it alludes to where Feudal Lord Asano Naganori assaulted a court official that enrage him by drawing a dagger, because of that Asano was compelled to commit suicide and that brought his 47 samurais to avenge their masters honor

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Forty-seven_Ronin.%5D

Don't lose my mind. I'm in the castle.

After examining them I will escape quickly.

Even though I've felt the pressure of being interviewed, it's the first time I've felt that pressure as an examiner.

If I was threatened with "buy me" then I would start nodding unintentionally.

Some of them aren't candidates, some of them are the shops guards though that doesn't cause me to be more comfortable.

I feel like a detective that's just been surrounded by gangsters.

I've underestimated the experience of owning a slave.

If I had a slave like these I might have problems within just a few days.

Even the person who owns slaves needs talent.

"How are they?"

The slave trader asks me after we leave the room.

I'd like to say they are all shit.

It's impossible.

It's really impossible.

It's definitely impossible.

"I don't think I have enough talent to handle them."

This is truthful more than just being humble.

"If there are any you'd like to speak to on their own, let me know."

He wasn't deterred.

He seems like a person of ability, and isn't worried about anything.

There might have been someone there who looked decent and was worth checking out.

However, in a room full of gangsters lined up it's impossible to pick out one that doesn't seem scary from the crowd.

Even if there is one that isn't scary, there's still problems as a vanguard.

If I picked one that looked fine in front of me, he might also be rebellious.

Should I ignore a useful vanguard?
The road ahead seems rocky.

Chapter 47: Sherry

*

“What did you think?”

I, who returned alive after the fearsome classroom was met by Roxanne. She looks like a goddess.

No. She IS a goddess.

Roxanne is a goddess.

The beautiful, gentle woman. with a soothing voice, who is reliable in a Labyrinth, with pretty dog ears, and big breasts.

“Roxanne, Thank you.”

“Um... yes?”

“It seems that many things are difficult.”

Roxanne doesn't seem to understand, but that's fine. She only needs to know that we won't be getting a male slave.

After briefly stroking her dog ears I sit on the couch and sip some tea.

“Oh...”

“Huh? Did anyone apart from Roxanne drink from this?”

“No.”

“It's fine then.”

Drinking after Roxanne isn't a problem.

The slave trader also returns shortly.

“That might be the extent of the people who are able to handle the Labyrinth at the moment.”

“Really? What kind of prices are they I'm wondering?”

“For people who can handle the Labyrinth, 150,000 nars is the cheapest, but men are mostly 250,000 nars and up.”

“Oh.”

So that's what the market price is like?

Beauty is more valuable than being able to work in the Labyrinth?

Well, the price of a labor slave is probably based on how much it can earn, whereas a woman has other values.

A knocking sound is heard at the door.

“Enter”

“Preparations are complete.”

The door opens, and the woman who seems to be an employee peers in. After bowing to the slave dealer, she notices Roxanne and gives a slight nod.

Roxanne also nods.

She seems to be an acquaintance.

Since she belonged to this business it's natural to know some people.

“Bring her.”

“Ok.”

After the slave dealers order, the woman brings a girl into the room. It's a short girl that only reaches to the chest of the woman. Small.

Her height is under 140cm.

Sherry: 16 year old female, explorer Lv10.

[Analyze] shows she's 16 years old, the same age as Roxanne. She's small because she's a dwarf?

Even if she's a dwarf, she doesn't really look like one. She has more of a short, still growing sort of feeling. It's the sort of appearance that if I've seen a dwarf before I would not have noticed.

Her body is fine, and not overweight at all. She's small, thin, and lovely. I don't really know what dwarf standards are like, and if she's a regular height.

Still, this isn't a child's body, it's just small. Her body isn't an hourglass figure, but I think it's fine.

Her hair is black and she gives of an obedient impression.

Even with her black hair she has a bright looking face.
A slightly raised nose with big powerful eyes and a small mouth.
She looks slightly Italian.

If I call her a Japanese person who looks Italian would that describe her?



TN: I realize her hair isn't black in the picture, probably a difference between the WN & the LN.

She is a considerably beautiful girl.
Instead of calling her a beautiful woman, beautiful girl fits better.
If she styled her hair she could pass as a celebrity.

Her hair is thick and gives a slightly strange impression.
It is short, and curls at the shoulders on the right and left side.

“Nice to meet you.”

When bowing, her entire hair has an unnatural shake.
What happened?

“Sherry is the only dwarf here at the moment. Sherry, come here.”
“Ok.”

Sherry goes over and sits next to the slave dealer, on the couch in front of me.
She is a dwarf.

She is a beautiful girl, even from up close.
There isn't the heart racing feeling I had when I saw Roxanne for the first time though.
Why?

Maybe I don't feel the desire since I already have Roxanne?
I already have Roxanne, so I don't need to get worked up.
It's because I have Roxanne.
Even if I don't get this one, I still have Roxanne.

Crap, is that how it is?
This is what the difference in society is like?
The popular guy who doesn't immediately jump on a woman becomes more popular?
An unpopular guy won't become more popular if his ulterior motives are exposed.

The present me can calmly look at her.
Sherry, even though she doesn't have a woman's charm, is a beautiful girl.
It's wrong to look for seductuous charm, being cute is fine.

After seeing the horrors on the third floor, her feeling of obedience gives a good impression.

“Are you fine with going into the Labyrinth?”

“Yes. When it’s possible I’ll do it.”

“I see.”

I asked about it.

She’s not worried about fighting in the Labyrinth.

Since she’s already Lv10 it’s probably safe.

Though, Sherry’s arm on the table is quite thin and small.

Why doesn’t the slave trader say anything?

He’s quietly watching things play out.

“Um, that...”

Sherry hesitated to say something.

Sherry looks at the the slave trader.

The slave trader gives a small nod.

“Yes?”

“I’m an explorer Lv10.”

“You have no problems entering the Labyrinth as an explorer?”

I already knew that from [Analyze].

“Um, well...”

“There’s a problem?”

“Until a dwarf becomes an explorer Lv10, they have the chance to become a master smith. However, not all dwarves can become one. Generally only those who have a talent in the Labyrinth can become one.”

There seems to be a problem.

“In other words, you weren’t able to become one?”

“...yes.”

At my question, Sherry looks down.

If it is a dwarf who has talent then it’s possible to become a master smith at explorer Lv10.

Sherry is explorer Lv10 and not a master smith yet.

So it wasn't possible for her to become one by explorer Lv10.

To get to that level and not be a master smith means that she doesn't have talent in the Labyrinth.

Sherry can't become a master smith.

Having a dwarf as a vanguard isn't a problem, but I did want a master smith.

However, there might be no chance.

To become a master smith you need talent?

There's already the limitation of being a dwarf.

Is there no hope?

First, how is it that talent is measured?

There is a condition aside from explorer Lv10 to get the master smith job.

For example, maybe higher than 100 Intellect is required.

No, Sherry seems to be quite smart, I need to consider something a dwarf needs.

Then, maybe it's 100 strength or more.

Since my bonus points in my character reset skill can be placed into strength, the condition of it being 100 or more is possible.

The conditions could be having 100 strength or more before explorer Lv10.

Roxanne has never mentioned stat points, so the knowledge of stat points doesn't seem to exist.

So a dwarf who doesn't reach the required strength by explorer Lv10 will think that it's just because they don't have the talent in the Labyrinth.

"Can I ask a question?"

"Yes. Please do."

Sherry looks up.

Her face is cute.

It would be a shame to decline her just because she doesn't have the master smith job.

Will her impression of me be hurt if I say something bad?

Her hair looks a little rough.

Perhaps it's because Roxanne is too beautiful.

How was Roxanne when I first met her?

With Roxanne we wipe our bodies every day before going to sleep, and have used the bath several times, and even with soap yesterday.

Of course there would be a difference.

If Roxanne became more beautiful, Sherry is sure to become more beautiful as well.

Because the base material is quite good.

“If you don't become a master smith by explorer Lv10, is it impossible? I'm wondering if there are other conditions to becoming one.”

I wouldn't be sad if I found out there was a condition that isn't talent.

“Only job changes before explorer Lv10 are accepted in the master smiths guild, though exceptions aren't entirely unheard of.”

“Is that so?”

Really? Is that how it goes?”

If you are talented you can become a master smith by explorer Lv10, but the possibility of becoming one after that is interesting.

Well, over explorer Lv10 and over 100 strength might be too common. Then everyone could become a master smith.

The conditions might be more severe.

Even if Sherry doesn't have the master smith job at the moment, if we meet the requirements the job should be able to be obtained.

Of course, there is always the possibility that the job can't be obtained as well.

How should I estimate the chances?

It also seems difficult to buy a master smith slave.

Though it seems you can buy a former master smith, you can't distinguish one with [Analyze] so they could just pretend to be a former master smith.

If you request a master smith, there will be some risks.

Even if she doesn't obtain master smith after buying her, I do still have room for more party members.

At worst, she's just someone to stay at home and mind the house while we go to the Labyrinth.

The chance that Sherry can become a master smith might mean it's worth taking the risk.

If the master smith job requires 100 strength before explorer Lv10, then it isn't a job we can get later no matter how much strength is increased. Like this, if you say it's talent by explorer Lv10, then it isn't altogether wrong.

Sherry is explorer Lv10 now.
It's a disadvantage.

"I was one of the strongest people in my village and I can show that in the Labyrinth. Thank you in advance."

Sherry bows.
Strength of 100 doesn't seem to be the condition.

Why is she promoting herself to me?
Is it from the slave traders orders?
I'm suspicious of it.

"Is that enough?"

Was the slave trader reading my reaction?
Is there doubt in my expression?

"Yes."

"Ok."

When I nod, the slave trader has Sherry withdrawn.
The slave trader also left the room with them.

"Would it be alright?"

Since the two of them have left, I mutter my doubts.
The other female slaves that I saw when I first met Roxanne behaved poorly.

Even the male slaves I just met behaved like that despite my presence, so I'm not really interested in purchasing them.

If I was a slave I don't think I'd consider trying to promote myself. Therefore, these are the slaves natural attitudes. But why did she appeal to me?

"I think that her condition is good."

"What condition? Ability to enter the Labyrinth?"

With my ability in the Labyrinth, I didn't really consider asking about it in detail.

The Labyrinth is the only way I know for her to earn her keep.

Well, she could hunt thieves as well if I ordered it.

I should also consider the increasing risk in the Labyrinth as we advance further.

"Well, she spoke about the Labyrinth to promote herself, I was also like that."

Is that how it was?

There might have been that aspect.

Being able to recognize skilled people is like killing two birds with one stone.

"So, you think the dwarf is promising?"

After asking, I realized it.

The reason the slave trader left is so that I can consult Roxanne about it.

That's probably how it is.

Well, I don't mind that.

"Yes, even if she doesn't know much yet or have talent, she has the resolution needed for training and effort."

"Yes, that's true."

Roxanne's training would be scary.

I won't object to it though.

It would give me some peace of mind.

Well, it might only be me thinking of something severe.

“She might not last long, but if the price is low she isn’t a bad choice.”

“She might not last long?”

“She might already be quite old, so you may want to check her age.”

“Oh?”

[Analyze] showed Sherry to be 16 years old.

It is the same age as Roxanne.

What is Roxanne saying?

Do dwarves have a short life span?

“As a dwarf gets older, their ears become thinner, and her ears were considerably thin.”

Roxanne explains this as I look doubtful.

Is it really like that?

The slave trader once told me that different races show their ages differently.

Is the dwarves aging point their ears?

The slave trader also said that there isn’t much difference in life span for different races.

“Ah, I see.”

It might be important to notice if someone is elderly.

I’ve heard something good.

The slave trader returns to the heavy atmosphere.

Didn’t he attempt to eaves drop?

The woman who brought Sherry is also with him.

“May I speak to that woman for a bit? I am indebted to her because she looked after me when I was here.”

Roxanne lets me know, when she sees the woman.

“Sure, that’s fine.”

The slave trader enters the room and Roxanne leaves.

The slave trader sits down in front of me.

“What did you think.”

“Depending on the price, she might be alright.”

“I see. Sherry is 16 years old, and even though she isn’t a master smith, she has agreed to become a sex slave. She’s a virgin so there is no worry about disease as well.”

The slave trader starts speaking frankly, probably because Roxanne left. Did he intend for Roxanne to leave for this? It’s not just me thinking about devious things.

“Is that so?”

“I don’t think you know much about other races Michio? Sherry’s ears are naturally thin, and that’s generally a feature of an aging dwarf. That decreases the price a bit and I think makes her quite affordable.”

It seems he probably did hear the conversation between myself and Roxanne.

If not he probably would have tried to sell her off at a high price.

I am glad that she came along.

“Even though people from other races would consider her ears to be an unrelated matter, she’s still cheap?”

“Actually, for other races a dwarves ears are the only thing they can judge their age by.”

“I see.”

Ah, for a woman that everybody thinks is elderly, society won’t value her at a high price.

“Also, because Sherry is only a first year slave, the amount of tax is cheaper too.”

“A first year slave?”

A regular persons taxes are 30,000 nars, and a slaves taxes are 10,000 nars.

If I became a slave I could pay 10,000 nars tax and then buy myself back and evade 20,000 nars of tax.

To prevent that, only a first year slave pays 10,000 nars in tax, and after that they are 30,000 nars.

Though I’m a freeman and my taxes are 100,000 nars so it would still

be a saving of 70,000 nars after the first year.

However, I might not be set back to freeman after buying myself back. That's likely I think.

What about Roxanne's tax?

Roxanne was sold because her family was unable to pay their taxes. Did the slave trader have to pay 30,000, or 10,000 because she had just been sold?

That may have altered Roxanne's price.

"I understand."

"Yeah, so because of her ears her price isn't that high, just around 300,000 nars, but her education isn't finished either so I'll decrease it by another 30,000 nars. How does 270,000 nars sound?"

The slave trader presents a price.

It's a massive difference compared to Roxanne's.

It's still higher than a male slave though, because it's a young woman?

Well, it's probably still cheaper than the regular market price.

Roxanne's age may have been an unfair advantage.

This time that isn't happening.

If it's cheap, I'll buy it, those were my conditions.

"Hmmm...."

"Well... 260,000, no 250,000... that's the best I can do."

As I think about it, he cuts the price.

The slave trader really wants to push to sell?

Is it because I don't care about the ears?

"Um?"

"Yes?"

250,000 nars seems to be the lowest.

It won't go any lower?

There's no helping it.

"When I bought Roxanne, she had some cloths included."

"Those? They were imitation maid cloths, and they really pleased a lot of

customers.”

Maid’s wear maid cloths.

They are obviously for women who do housework in upper class houses.

“Is there any?”

“If I add cloths it’s an additional 4,000 nars, and if I add that on and consider this a special service the price comes to 177,800 nars.”

Since I bought something extra, the 30% discount became effective. This completes the deal.

Chapter 48: Cutie

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I took out 14 gold coins, and 378 silver coins and paid for Sherry. I don't have much money left now. 100 silver coins equals a gold coin, but it's necessary to pay the price. A gold coin is 10,000 nars, and quite expensive.

I count out the money and the slave trader leaves. Roxanne comes back instead.

"I've decided to take her."

"Really? That's good then."

For a brief moment Roxanne's expression becomes cloudy. Did I notice because I'm feeling guilty? Or am I hoping she's jealous?

Even though Roxanne's expression seems to darken, on the surface she is welcoming it.

It's because of Roxanne I had this chance.

Does she think she can't object because she's a slave? I don't think I'd mind if she showed her displeasure a bit. To enter the Labyrinth we need to increase our war potential. Would it be fine if I bought a man? Well, that would cause other problems.

"I'll still be relying on you in the future Roxanne."

"Yes Master. Please do."

Roxanne replied with a smile. Maybe I shouldn't have bought Sherry. Well, I've paid a lot of money and it's done now.

"Sorry to have kept you waiting. Come here Sherry."

After leaving with the money, the slave trader returned to the room. Sherry is right behind him.

Sherry bows.

“Please look after me.”

“I’ll be in your care.”

“I am the number one slave Roxanne. Please look after me.”

Roxanne seems to have reached the rank of number one slave. It’s true that I bought her first though.

Does this need to be said?

The number one slave? The top seat?

I don’t know.

“You were a slave after all? I thought you were his young wife.”

Sherry is surprised at Roxanne’s remark.

“Young wife. That isn’t the case.”

Roxanne. I didn’t want you to deny that so flatly.

“I was mistaken because your cloths are so nice, you look very health, and your skin has such a lovely complexion.”

“It’s because Master is a gentle, wonderful person. You won’t have to worry about food, clothing or shelter.”

While the two slaves are talking, I lift my left hand.

Sherry also lifts her left hand.

The slave trader recites an incantation and the intelligence cards appear.

“The contract is completed. Please confirm her age.”

Confirm that she’s young even though she has thin ears.

Since there is an intelligence card the age can’t be falsified?

Perhaps there are methods somehow.

Sherry. 16 year old female. Explorer. First year slave. Owner: Kaga Michio.

I already knew she was 16 because of [Analyze].

Sherry’s ears really are thin, but that doesn’t worry me.

It’s convenient because she was cheap thanks to those ears.

Kaga Michio. 17 year old male. Explorer. Freeman. Owner of slaves: Roxanne, Sherry.

The number of slaves owned has increased on my intelligence card. Is there a limit to the amount of slaves I can own? Wouldn't there be a problem displaying it if the number of slaves keeps increasing?

"I've confirmed it."

"It takes time to have the cloths made. Please come and pick them up in 10 days."

The same with Roxanne, we received more details afterwards. A receipt was completed, and we left the business.

Once outside, Sherry was invited to the party, and [Plating] was cast.

Explorer Lv10, Villager Lv3, Herbalist Lv1.

Even though I could see her jobs because of [Party Job Settings], master smith was not there.

There isn't many jobs, is it because she's still Villager Lv3?

Warrior, Swordsman & Merchant become available at Lv5. Perhaps master smith is at Lv5 too?

It's admirable that she doesn't have thief.

Sherry doesn't have anything except the tunic and pants she is wearing. Roxanne just had a case of clothing as well.

"I'll stop by the explorers guild."

"Certainly."

"C-Certainly."

On the way back we stopped at Vale's explorers guild and bought one black magic crystal.

We bought one this morning in Quratar's explorers guild as a replacement for the yellow one we sold.

Now that I have another slave I needed an extra though.

I have not found any black crystals in the labyrinth since the one I tested fusing on.

It feels like I wasted it.

My judgement is bad at times.

“After that we’ll go to the adventurer’s guild, and then should we return straight to the house?”

“Certainly.”

“Um, yes?”

Sherry seemed a bit hesitant, but walked up right next to me.

“Is something wrong?”

“Um, is there also an adventurer that is a party member?”

“No, why do you ask?”

“Because of the way you said we’d return to the house.”

Then Sherry went back and chatted to Roxanne.

There’s the possibility of getting home from the wall in the adventurer’s guild using the adventurers skill [Field walk].

Since Sherry has seen my intelligence card she knows I’m an explorer.

Did she think there was something strange?

“Don’t worry, you’ll understand soon enough.”

Oh. Roxanne stopped trying to explain it.

I’m uncomfortable about the explanation.

Is it because it’s a secret?

“What? Oh, um?...”

As expected, when [Warp] is used from the adventurers guild to get home Sherry gives a puzzled look.

“Lets sit down. I’m going shopping for some things we’ll need.”

I decided not to explain it.

I sit on the dining room chair.

“It’s not that late yet.”

“I think I’ll go to the effort of preparing the bath today.”

“Yes, that’s wonderful.”

Roxanne had sat down in the next seat, and her whole face lit up.

Roxanne seems to like the bath too.

Her dog ears are more beautiful when she's smiling.

I pat them without thinking.

“Um. Is it possible that you have multiple jobs? I've only heard stories about that from Myths and Legends.”

Sherry interrupts.

Such a legend exists?

I've heard something nice.

If I had the adventurers job I could use [Field walk] while still showing as explorer on my intelligence card.

She has a good head on her shoulders to work it out from that.

“Sadly I don't have the adventurers job. That was a magic called [Warp].”

“Is that time & space magic?”

“Time & space magic?”

I return the question like a parrot.

Is there space magic?

“Well, not many know it but when [Field walk] is used it doesn't just effect the location but time as well, so it's actually a time and space magic.”

“There's a time difference?”

“The time difference, sometimes you move to a location that is night time when the starting location was daytime. If I leave in early morning, sometimes I'll end up somewhere that is still night. [Field walk] is a magic that effects time like this.”

Well, it is a time difference.

Is it the sort of thing that you'll notice if you travel to the same places often, but you won't understand?

“Sit down for now.”

“It's fine to sit?”

Roxanne who is next to me at the six person table speaks to Sherry in a quiet voice.

I chose the six person table because a party has a maximum size of six people.

“Yes, please sit next to Master.”

The chairs are in groups of three, and I’m in the central chair. A beautiful woman is sitting on either side of me. A flower in each hand. Roxanne understands things well.

“Well, thank you then.”

“This planet. Do you know the theory of a round earth?”

I asked.

It would explain the difference in time from one area to the next. The circular earth theory has been around for a considerably long time on earth.

The positions of the stars move as well if you travel north.

Time and space magic. Sherry might be smart.

For such a person it might be necessary to show off how smart the master is as well.

If I properly explain the time difference caused by the circular planet with the angle of the sun then I might get respected a bit.

It would be a good feeling to be respected by a cute girl like Sherry. Also, it might be useful for smoothly progressing our life here. Even though it’s not something I discovered, it’s from the scientists of earths past.

I wish to express my thanks to the effort of my ancestors.

“I have heard the story that there was a great old scholar who insisted it was so, but the people who made the story called him a useless fool.”

“What is the basis for it being a silly theory?”

“If the earth was round, a person on the other side would fall off.”

Well.

So that’s how it is.

I guess they’d think that, if they didn’t know about gravity.

“Well, I don’t think it’s a time and space magic, but I have some magics

that I use that you must keep a secret.”

“I will.”

Lets give up on explaining.

I don't know how to properly explain gravity.

Although I brought it up with the intention of showing off my knowledge

I think I'd just end up sounding foolish.

It seems that I need to keep up constant effort.

“So there is legends of people with multiple jobs?”

“There are legends such people existed in the past.”

“Well, you can think of me like that.”

“Um...?”

“So, for today what do I need to buy, a rucksack, a wooden bucket, some equipment?”

I forcibly stopped the explanation and switched to speaking with Roxanne.

Roxanne seemed surprised at my remarks, but doesn't falter.

She's used to surprises from me by now.

“Well, for today and tomorrow the cloths provided by the slave traders business are enough, but please buy new underwear.”

“I understand, I'll visit a clothing store.”

“Yes.”

There's a good clothing store on the other side of Quratar's labyrinth that I can go to.

“Um. Mine aren't dirty yet so you don't need to trouble yourself.”

“I'm buying them. Also, what would you like for a weapon?”

Well, she'll need some underwear to wear tomorrow.

“Ah. Thank you. I can use a hammer if I'm a vanguard, or a spear if I'm in mid range. I'm good with a spear but a spear can't be used by a vanguard. The hammer is better to avoid hitting allies because it's powerful and easy to use.”

Since the spear is long it may be difficult to use in the narrow labyrinth.

“For the spear, do you use it from behind?”

“Yes, or thrusting it into the demon between the vanguards. It’s slow to use but the power is quite strong.”

It doesn’t seem like a bad idea to use the spear as well. However, the current situation will require her to be a vanguard.

“In Master’s party, Master annihilates the enemy with his magic while I keep the demon’s in check. It would be good for you to use a hammer and become a vanguard while Master is the fire power.”

Roxanne has the same opinion as me.

“What? Magic?”

“Yes.”

“It’s possible?”

Sherry alternately looks between Roxanne and me.

“Yes.”

“Yes.”

“Oh...”

“Keep it a secret though.”

Sherry looks confused, but I force her agreement.

“Ok. So... it really is multiple jobs?”

“Yes. Don’t worry about it. Have you defeated demons with a hammer?”

That could be the problem.

Monk was acquired from defeating demons bare handed, and swordsman might have been because I use a sword. Perhaps defeating demons with a hammer is a condition for master smith?

It really feels like a master smith should use a hammer.

“No, I have not.”

“Well, if your fine with it I’ll get you a hammer to use.”

We’ll try that out first.

“Ah, yes.”

Sherry nodded while slightly tilting her head.

Is the missing condition that she hasn't defeated a demon with a hammer?

There is a chance it's related.

A small chance.

"I'll get a hammer. Do dwarves often use hammers?"

"There are people who use other weapons but it's quite common, and I've used one a little."

For a dwarf with talent, a demon is usually defeated with a hammer. It will be enough to try it.

"Has Roxanne used one?"

"No, It's quite heavy and my speed would be reduced by it."

Right, with a heavy hammer Roxanne's ability to dodge would decrease. Movement with a light sword.

Actually, the scimitar isn't really that light.

"Do you hold the hammer with both hands?"

"Yes. Some people just use one hand, but power goes up if you use two."

I confirmed it with Sherry.

She doesn't need a shield.

"I don't have much money left for equipment, so please bear with some cheap equipment for now."

"It's alright."

"Also, do you know about empty slots on equipment?"

I casually asked.

"A skill slot?"

"You know about it?"

"A great old scholar had a theory that equipment has slots, and a skill won't fuse to it from a monster card if there isn't one."

I asked, and there seems to be such a theory.

I've hit the nail on the head?

"Knowing the same thing as a great scholar. Master is very wise."

“Ah, yes, the theory about the round earth, and... the dwarf skill slot... even only a small number of dwarves know about it.”

The old scholar was great.

If there is a person saying the same thing then the idea that a monster card will fuse with an empty slot seems to be correct.

“That theory, is it no good?”

“Nobody knows because nobody can see the skill slots.”

I can see them with [Analyze].

“There’s no way to check?”

Roxanne asks about it.

The theory is easy to check.

You just have to fuse monster cards with equipment many times.

If you find a piece of gear that the fusion fails on every single time then the theory is proven. After that, if you find a bit of gear that fails even once you wouldn’t try it again.

Is that all?

They should be able to verify it.

“If anything, there are more people who don’t believe it.”

“So it’s not being completely denied?”

“When fusion fails, the monster card is lost, and the equipment returns to being it’s materials. Even though the piece of equipment can be re-made, the people who believe in the skill slot theory don’t believe it becomes the same piece of gear.”

Does the equipment break as well when it fails?

Then verifying it is impossible.

Aside from [Analyze], there is no change to the appearance if an item has a skill slot or not.

The skill slot theory still seems to be correct though.

“What do you think Sherry?”

“The skill slot theory seems a little far fetched. It blames this and that for failure, but the argument against it doesn’t hold any weight either.

So Sherry disagrees?

I understand what she's saying though.

There's no way to disprove it.

There's no way to get any results.

To think of such a thing.

Sherry seems to be quite smart.

"Is that so? You seemed to know a lot about it."

"Sorry. I was interested so I asked someone that was well informed."

How smart and knowledgeable she is might make her useful.

Chapter 49: Search

*

My newest slave, Sherry, seems to be quite smart.
She might be useful for me since I don't know anything about this world.

"I'm sorry. My mother always got angry if I didn't know something."

Sherry lowers her head.

"It's not bad."

"It's been said that if you try to learn too much you'll bring ruin upon yourself."

"Oh, really, hmm."

I understand an idea like that.
It's about "knowing your place".
Slavery is common in this world.

"Master also does experiments to learn things, so I think it's good."
"Really?"

Roxanne, you're not harbouring a grudge?
You're smiling, but you might be hiding it.

"Well, we don't over-do it."
"Yes."

Well, knowing about it isn't bad, but it could be bad if too much was said.

That it's possible to use magic, and not use the incantation.

That party members jobs can be changed.

Oh, maybe that should be explained.

"Oh, do you have anything in your item box Sherry?"
"No, nothing."

After confirming it, I changed Sherry's job to villager Lv3.
If Sherry's explorer job becomes Lv11, it might be bad.

"Hmmm, villager Lv3 is a bit low."

“What?”

Sherry looks at me with eyes of suspicion.
Did I make things awkward?

“...”

When I look at Roxanne she looks like a person who is slightly troubled.
Is that so?

Neither of them are aware of my knowledge of party job levels.

It's one of those times where I'd say something hard to understand to
Roxanne.

Roxanne seems a little cold right now.

“Well, do you know anything about the hero job?”

There's no helping it, so I ask Sherry a question.

“It's a legendary job that the first emperor was supposed to have.”

“There's a legend?”

“Yes. There's also people who say that such a job doesn't exist as well,
and there's no guild for it either.”

Hero seems to be quite rare.

“So, you'd need to find someone with that job to prove that it exists?”

“Since it was supposed to be the job of the founding emperor, if someone
had that job they might be accused of rebellion.”

What?

Bad. So that's how it is?

I don't want to think of that possibility.

I think it's real that the first emperor had the job.

“I see. So, I'm off to go shopping.”

“Ok.”

It's hard to talk about it more than this, so I decide to run away.
Roxanne has a knowing expression, so she probably realises.

“After shopping, I'll have dinner with Sherry & Roxanne, and then I'll

prepare the bath. Can you cook anything Sherry?”

“Yes, I can cook a little.”

“Ok.”

Because Sherry said she can cook, I look to Roxanne and give a nod. It carries a variety of meanings.

“Undestood.”

“Um, that thing, the bath, it’s THAT kind of bath?”

“I’m not sure what you can’t understand, it’s just a bath.”

Are there other kinds of baths? When I think about it, there are. Sauna, hot spring, public bath.

“I see.”

“Sherry, just wait with Roxanne for a bit and you’ll see.”

I stand up to run away.

I leave the two alone, and leave through the wall.

“I’ve heard that only royalty and nobles take baths, Is he an amazing person?”

As I use [Warp], I hear Sherry speaking to Roxanne.

“See you later, Master.”

“See you later.”

The two of them bowed, and I’m not sure if Roxanne gave an answer. I warped to the adventurer’s guild, and then headed to the armor shop.

In the armor shop I buy a leather jacket, a leather hat, and leather shoes.

All of them have empty skill slots.

It takes a bit of time, even if I had brought Roxanne to help.

Leather equipment is pretty cheap in price.

For the hands, we still have spare leather mittens.

I return to the house once.

“Welcome back Master.”

“Welcome back.”

“Leather shoes for Roxanne, and Roxanne you can pass the sandals to Sherry.”

I take off the Leather shoes that I’m wearing and give them to Roxanne. I will wear the new ones I just bought.

Sherry is barefoot, like Roxanne was when I bought her. If I had known I could have prepared shoes beforehand.

“Yes Master, Thank you.”

“Do you need a leather jacket Sherry? If not you could try the leather armor.”

I pull the leather jacket from my item box. The leather jacket is more expensive than the leather armor, so normally I’d pass the leather armor to Sherry.

“Well, my breasts are a bit small...”

Sherry looks a bit sad.
I didn’t mean to have that kind of meaning.
This is not sexual harrassment.
This is definately not sexual harassment.

Sherry’s breasts aren’t really that small.
Well, that’s how it seems through her cloths.
They’ll be a pleasure for me.
Washing them in the bathroom, and doing this and that in the bedroom.

When we take off her cloths, are they really that small?

For a woman with breasts as big as Roxanne’s, her breasts will be too big for the leather armor.
Thus, offering the leather armor is equal to saying she’s flat chested.

“Sorry, I didn’t have that kind of meaning.”
“It’s ok, I know they are small.”
“No, they are fine to look at, like decorations.”

Roxanne tries to comfort her.
Like decorations. An erotic person like me can’t understand that.

It got quiet, and I passed the leather jacket to Sherry.
I can understand her feelings.
Roxanne, I think your comforting may have had the opposite effect.
I wait for Sherry to try on the shoes, and then take them both to the weapons shop.

“This is a hammer.”

Sherry had recovered, and called me over to the corner of the weapon store.

The hammers, morning stars & maces were kept there.
There was quite a range of sizes.

“There is a variety.”

“The first cheap one will be fine.”

Sherry pointed towards a club.
A club?

Club hammer.

It seems to be classified as a hammer.
It doesn't have the feeling of a hammer, isn't it different?
I find one with an empty skill slot and pass it to Sherry.

“This one looks sturdy.”

“Thank you.”

I need to buy more than one item for the discount.
I just wanted the hammer, is there anything else I need?
Is there an upgrade for my cane or Roxanne's scimitar?
Maybe I should buy a spear?

With that thought, it occurs to me there might be a job from defeating an enemy with a spear.

Lancer, or perhaps Phalanx?

I find a copper spear with an empty skill slot.

I ask the storekeeper, and he says the copper spear is an affordable item for beginners.

The shaft is made from wood, even though it's a copper spear.
Maybe the blade point is made of copper.

"Is the hammer alright?"

"Yes. Thank you very much."

It's the type of club Sherry chose.

I pass the spear and club to the storekeeper to buy them.

840 nars in total. The price of the copper spear seems a little high.

"There you go."

"Thank you."

As I pass Sherry the club I get a surprise.

Her eyes are sparkling.

"Ah, um, it's not a big deal."

"Thank you very much."

Isn't it something trivial?

"Isn't it just something small?"

"It's not, because a slave is normally never allowed to carry around weapons."

Roxanne teaches me quietly.

So that's it?

Looking at Sherry's reaction, it's easy to imagine.

Roxanne has always had the scimitar at her waist though.

After that we buy some socks and another pair of the pumpkin colored underpants at the clothing store, and then a rucksack, a small wooden bucket, and some toothpicks at the general store.

I then buy some cooking ingredients and return to the house.

It was easy since we warped straight from the adventurers guild to the house.

"Make dinner while I prepare the bath."

"Certainly."

"Don't I need to help you with the bath?"

Sherry asks.

“It’s quite hot and difficult.”

It helps to have someone moving the hot water from the jar to the bath tub, but it isn’t necessary.

The temperature of the bathroom becomes hot and hard to bear. To work in the bathroom, it’s fine to just have one person doing it. My magic is needed to boil the water, so it has to be me.

Sherry doesn’t seem to understand as I head for the bathroom. Even though it’s troublesome, it isn’t bad if I think about the result. Be troubled now, and enjoy it later. A fine person must be like that.

“We can eat all this?”

In the middle of the job, my MP has decreased so I head to the kitchen and hear Sherry & Roxanne.

“Yes, Sherry. Eat as much as you want without holding back.”

“But this is his food?”

“We are making it for three people.”

“Three people?”

There seems to be a problem with the quantity of food. Are dwarves gluttonous?

“Yes.”

“But the meat bought is such good quality, and the highest quality bread was bought. I thought we’d just be getting leftovers?”

What does Sherry mean?

I can’t hear the response, so I call out and interrupt it.

“Roxanne, can you do the usual thing?”

“Yes Master.”

Roxanne comes and I pass her the leather gloves and wooden shield. I put the leather hat on her head. Of course I pat her dog ears as I do it.

“I’m looking forward to the delicious food. Thank you.”

Sherry comes over.

Well, it will depend on your cooking if it’s delicious.

“We are going to the Labyrinth, do you want to come as well Sherry?”

“To the Labyrinth?”

“You don’t have to. If you need to stay and tend to the cooking then it’s alright not to come.”

“It will be fine for a while, can I come?”

Sherry wants to come, so I pass her the leather mittens.

I cover Sherry’s head with a leather hat.

“Amazing.”

Sherry’s hair is very thick.

Or should I say dense?

I’ve been interested since I first saw it.

“It’s because dwarves have a lot of hair.”

“Is that so?”

“Dwarven men get beards, but dwarven females don’t so instead they get a large amount of hair on their head.”

“I see.”

There’s still some distance between the hat and her scalp.

It seems like it would absorb shock even without a helmet.

When moving the hat, the entire hair shakes.

Even though it isn’t curly, it remind me of an afro.

“I cut it regularly, but it grows right back.”

I get the feeling that dwarves are a race who are harassed because of their hair.

“Shall we go?”

I prepare my equipment, and pull out Durandal.

We go to the fifth floor of Vale’s labyrinth.

We are on the fifth floor because Durandal can kill everything in a

single blow here.

Sherry would get pulled into the fight if it was dragged out.

I should gradually get her used to it instead of taking her straight to the seventh floor.

Also, killing things in one blow is cooler.

I want to show off to our new party member, Sherry.

A beautiful girl.

My perverted thoughts get the best of me.

“Let’s see, umm.”

“This way.”

Roxanne points the way towards a demon.

Sherry looks puzzled, probably because it wouldn’t be possible to get here with [Field walk].

“I’ve heard that people from the wolf tribe can smell demons, can you do that Roxanne?”

“Yes.”

“That’s amazing.”

Roxanne shows off her cool side before I do.

Well, there’s no helping it.

“There.”

After moving for a while we come across the demon.

It’s actually two cheep sheep that Roxanne found.

“Ah. Really. So quick. As expected.”

I understand the feeling.

Sherry was an explorer Lv10, so it’s likely that she’s been in the Labyrinth.

When Roxanne isn’t around I also wander endlessly around the Labyrinth.

I don’t encounter things often.

It might even take longer than 10 minutes.

I am really thankful for Roxanne.

After hearing Sherry's words, my gratitude for Roxanne is renewed.

"Thank you Roxanne. Let's go."

"Yes."

We stand side by side, and advance.

I swing my sword at the first demon to come.

Durandal is swung down on it's shoulder.

The sheep collapses.

Look at my swordplay.

I am cool.

My too cool display.

I also pierce the side of the cheep sheep that Roxanne is keeping busy.

A single blow.

The demon collapses, becomes smoke, and dissapears.

"Great! Amazing!"

It probably is.

"How did you evade it so magnificently?"

Damn.

It seems Roxanne stole the show with her dodging while I was fighting.

Chapter 50: Human

*

“If you carefully watch the demon you can understand how it’s going to move, so you only need to move your body a little.”

Roxanne gives Sherry a lecture about evasive action.
It’s difficult to understand.

Being taught by Roxanne isn’t a bad thing however.

At first I was the only one being taught by Roxanne’s explanations.

I notice that Sherry is making a slightly troubled face.
Like she wants to escape the lecture.
Well, I can understand that feeling.

“Which way should we head next?”
“Ah, yes, this way.”

I decided to help her out.

Roxanne seems to be abnormal.
I had wondered if all the people of this world had such amazing battle ability, but that doesn’t seem to be the case.
It’s nice.

Sherry is a sensible person. She’s a regular person.
She’s a kindred spirit.
Sherry and I exchange a glance.

“It’s just been the two of us in the Labyrinth until now.”
“It must have been hard.”

Without anyone saying so, I felt it was necessary to start a conversation.
I feel like a guy who understands gazes now.
Sherry and my feelings are united as one.

After that we keep hunting to recover my MP.
Is that enough of a hunt yet?

“Shall we head back?”

We returned to the house using [Warp].

“We used [Warp] magic to enter the Labyrinth?”

When we return to the house, Sherry approaches me with a question.
Crap.

The person with common sense is here.

Sherry’s eyes are sparkling.

It doesn’t feel forceful since she’s so short.

It’s rather cute.

Those eyes make me forget it would be bad to answer too many questions.

“That’s right.”

“But, isn’t there an incantation?”

“Well, there might be one.”

That reminds me that I’ve only ever use [Warp] with [Incantation Omission].

When I used it in the adventurers guild I recited my superficial knowledge of the [Field walk] incantation.

It’s possible that if I remove the [Incantation Omission] skill that there will be an incantation for [Warp].

“It didn’t seem like you recited anything beforehand.”

“Master can use magic even without an incantation.”

“Really?”

“Really.”

Roxanne gives me a helping hand.

“How it works, even though I’m doing it I can’t explain it.”

“I understand.”

You can understand that it can’t be understood.

Sherry is quite smart.

I don’t understand why it’s possible at all.

Why can you breathe? How do you move your hands and feet? I’m not a biologist so it would be hard to explain.

If I asked a fish in the sea why it didn’t drown I’d be likely to embarrass

it.

A fish can swim, so it's possible to swim. A bird can fly, so it's possible to fly.

Sherry murmurs "why" and starts thinking about it on her own.

"Also, you killed everything in a single blow, you must be strong."

"Ah, yes."

I did my best to show off, but it doesn't seem to have made much of an impression.

Well, strength is necessary to earn money in the Labyrinth, so when you see that I can buy two slaves you probably already realize that I'm strong. I think you're quite smart.

"May I know what level you are?"

"I'm explorer Lv33."

It just went up to Lv33.

The pace of improvement has slowed down lately.

It seems quite serious when my level goes up.

"What?"

When I answer, Roxanne raises a boisterous voice from the side.

"What?"

"Master was Lv27"

"Well, I was then."

That reminds me, I may have been Lv27 when Roxanne asked me.

"Then."

"It goes up regularly."

"Goes up."

It might have been about 20 days ago that I told Roxanne.

Since my experience increases 100 times faster than a regular person it can't be helped.

Even Roxanne has gone up ten or more levels since the start.

"Can a demon be killed in a single blow by a Lv33 explorer? Is it the

attack power of the sword?”

Sherry seems to be watching everything.
She feels like an enemy watching Durandal.

“The level of this sword... is a secret.”

I'll escape to the bathroom.
Sherry nods slightly as I run away.

“Master, we have hot coals.”

After a while, two people came to the bathroom with a stick.
This isn't the pursuit I was worried about.
It's true that I was pursued, but it's not for answers.

“Oh, can Sherry make a fire?”

Usually a blacksmith will use fire.
If you don't use magic, making a fire in this world without matches might be difficult.
The master smith job may require you to be able to make a fire, well it's a possibility.

“Yes, I can.”

Well, it was easily checked.
It seems to be wrong.
We could try melting metal later.

What?
Roxanne is looking at me with a delicate expression.
Is it because I'm asking Sherry, and not her?

Not that. It's not that, Roxanne.
This is a misunderstanding.

“I will always make fire when Roxanne needs it.”
“Yes, Master.”

I used [Fireball] to set fire to a branch, and passed it to Roxanne.
Roxanne smiled approvingly.

I'm not really sure what just happened myself.
I'm so tired.

To prepare the bath we entered the Labyrinth several times after that. Sherry watched the fire, and Roxanne and I hunted on the seventh floor of Vale's Labyrinth.

"Why do you go to the Labyrinth?"

Sherry asks a lot of questions.

"It's quite tiring to prepare the bath so it's to relieve stress."

Roxanne gave a strange answer.

Is that how Roxanne see's me?

It might be my fault for not explaining it.

"The purpose is to recover the MP I've spent conjuring magic."

"Does the sword have a MP recovery skill?"

"It has MP absorption."

"MP absorption..."

Sherry stares at Durandal.

"You've heard of it?"

"Ah, yes. MP absorption is created from combining the monster card from the Kobald with the monster card from an insectivorous scissor type plant. It's a very valuable skill."

I don't understand the whole lot, but it's as expected of a dwarf. She seems to know things related to the master smith well.

"Do you know what a rabbit's monster card becomes?"

"It's an [incantation delay] when fused with a weapon."

"Oh, that's good to know. It may come in useful."

This is good.

This saves me using a valuable item as an experiment.

We won't need to waste time checking it.

"Thank you."

"Also, is [incantation delay] different to [incantation interruption]?"

Durandal has [incantation interruption].

“[Incantation delay] delay’s the completion of an incantation. [Incantation interruption] cancels the incantation while it’s in progress. If you fuse the rabbit’s monster card with the kobold’s monster card it becomes [Incantation interruption].

“So [Incantation delay] delays it, and [Incantation interruption] cancels it?”

I don’t really understand the difference.

“Is [Incantation interruption] the better skill?”

Roxanne asks it plainly.

Even I’m not sure.

“Yes. But if all members of a party surround a demon while using [Incantation delay] weapons, they can probably defeat it before the incantation ends.”

So if the combined effects of [Incantation delay] are more than a demon’s incantation casting speed then the demon might never complete it’s incantation.

Even if the damage done isn’t much it all adds up eventually.

It’s like a zerg attack.

“Other actions cannot be done while chanting an incantation.”

“Really? So [incantation delay] is quite good.”

Roxanne’s statement is worth thinking about.

When cancelling an incantation with [incantation interruption] an attack normally follows up afterwards.

If the incantation is delayed instead of cancelled then there won’t be an attack.

If you keep delaying it then the attack will never happen.

It’s possible that [incantation delay] is the stronger of the two.

“Keep in mind that demons aren’t always on their own, and occasionally a demon will stop it’s incantation on it’s own. It’s also quite difficult to get a weapon with incantation delay for every party member. It’s best to

consider other options. This is a good strategy against bosses on lower floors, but [incantation interruption] that can cancel moves becomes the better of the two as you work your way up.”

“I see. So [Incantation interruption] is a good skill.

Roxanne nods.

So it’s not as good as it seemed.

It’s mainly good for bosses on lower floors.

“So it’s bad if we only have the rabbit monster’s card if we want the skill [Incantation interruption]?”

“You need the monster card from the kobold too. The kobolds monster card is special and has a function that strengthens the skill of the monster card it is fused with.”

I thought the kobold was like an annoying insect monster with weak, cheap drops, but it had an advantage like this?

“So the monster card of the kobold? It might be good to hunt some kobolds.”

“Um, do you happen to have the rabbit monsters card?”

“Ah. Yes.”

“We got it this morning.”

Roxanne confirms it.

I exchange a glance, and nod.

“You probably know already, but weapons with skills and monster cards are auctioned off in Quratar’s merchants guild. You can sell off your monster card there too.”

This news is new to me of course.

“...Roxanne, did you know this?”

“Um. I have heard a rumor.”

Roxanne and I probably look a little less cool to Sherry now.

“I’m from a far off country. Anything you can teach me is welcome.”

“Sure.”

Now my good impression has decreased a bit.
It can't be helped when it comes to things I don't know.

“Can you buy the kobolds monster card at the auction?”
“It's possible. Does that mean you have connections to a master smith?”

Sherry is the connection.
I'll keep that quiet for now.

“Yes. Thank you for the explanation Sherry, I've learned a lot. Your knowledge is quite useful Sherry.”

“No... I'm not that great.”

“Please keep me informed in the future as well.”

“Ah, Thank you.”

I praised Sherry, then returned to the Labyrinth.
In the labyrinth I make sure to remember to praise Roxanne when she finds a demon so she knows she is still useful.
I have to be careful in various ways.
Two slaves seems to be more difficult than I thought.

After returning from the labyrinth I create hot water several times, then finally the bath is ready.
I float a lemon on it, and then go out.

“Thank you very much.”

Roxanne passes me a towel.
I wipe away my sweat.

“Thank you.”
“The meal is ready.”
“Shall we eat?”

In the dining room, the dishes are layed up on the table.
Judging from the position of the plates, Sherry seems to be next to Roxanne.

“I've made the dwarven dish borscht.” TN: It's actually a [Russian/Ukrainian dish](#) I think.
Sherry says.

She says it's borscht, but is it a close translation?

It might be a dish similar to borscht.

"It looks good."

"I hope it meets your tastes."

There is a red soup in the center of the table.

Dwarves seem to have their own cuisine in this world.

When I sit, Roxanne sits in front of me.

She thinks that we should use the space on the table a little more.

"Your sitting there?"

"It's the best seat."

Is it a slave and master thing?

I'm not sure.

"Sit down Sherry."

"Um, am I allowed to sit?"

"Would you prefer to eat while standing?"

"I'm allowed to eat?"

What is she saying?

"Master likes company for his meals. Master, it's normally very rare for a slave to eat the same meal with their Master."

I let Roxanne explain, and Sherry sits down.

It's not a problem if it's my preference.

I take the borscht from the center of the table without anyone protesting.

Roxanne taught me this.

It's the Master's job to serve soup.

I don't understand why, but it isn't a big deal.

When in Rome, do as the Romans do.

First of all I fill a plate for myself..

This is what Roxanne told me.

Next, I'll fill a plate for Sherry.

I can feel Roxanne's eyes on me, so I put the plate in front of Roxanne instead.

"Here you go."

"Thank you, Master."

It's the dwarven dish that Sherry made, so I'm looking forward to eating it.

Last, I place a dish in front of Sherry.

It looks like she had Roxanne's help with the stir-frying of the meat and vegetables, and with the bread.

I'm not sure though.

"Let's dig in."

First of all, the borscht.

Mmmm.

It's a good taste, but a bit sweet.

It has a country style feeling.

The ingredients are cut quite chunkily.

If I cut it finely maybe it would be like minestrone.

"It's delicious."

"Thank you."

"Quite good. That reminds me, the wolf tribe have the beast soldier job, and the dwarves have the master smith job. Do the humans have a race specific job?"

I try to start a conversation.

There's also the hotel job that the person in Vale's inn had which might have been a racial job for his species.

It feels unnatural that only humans don't have one.

Is Hero a racial job possibly?

I think it's too strong for that to be the case.

"Oh..."

"Um, oh..."

Their reactions are bad.
Did I say something odd?

“I think it would be good to be loved by Master.”
“I am ready also.”

What are they talking about?
I was asking about a job.

“What?”
“The humans seem to be a race with an extremely large sex drive.”

Sherry explains.
I think I’ve heard something like this.
Humans will have all kinds of sex. Bestiality, homosexual sex, sex with minors, rape, incest, even if there is no chance of reproduction from it they’ll still do everything.
Humans have an instinct to do anything.

The humans in this world seem to cause havoc too.
War and destruction is in our nature.

“Is that so?”
“Since it’s such a race, they have the job of Sex Maniac that they get when immersed in their desires. It’s a human specific job.”

The Sex Maniac job.
Immersed in sexual desire.
Human.

Chapter 51: Sex maniac

*

Man is a being with a massive sexual appetite.
Roxanne has a subtle smile because of it.
There's no helping my sexual desire since I now have two sex slaves.

Well, there's nothing I can do about it.
There's really nothing I can do about it.
It's a man thing.

Since there's no helping it, I was the first to enter the bath after the meal.

"Everyone take off your cloths and join me in the bath."

I declare it and take off my cloths.
Being slightly forceful is necessary so Sherry is like Roxanne and doesn't complain.
Chance to complain is limited if we get in quickly.

I undressed quickly, and entered the bath a bit early.
I wanted to watch the ladies undressing, but I also needed to adjust the temperature of the water.

"May I enter the bath? Baths are things that only nobles and royalty use."

"It's fine, lets get in together."

Roxanne persuades her.
It seems things are alright.
Sherry will get in with us.

The lantern is set up, and the temperature of the bath is checked.
It's a little hot, but I don't think I need to add any water.
It's rather good.
Since I've used the bath several times my experience is showing.

Adjusting the temperature is hard and easiest done by adding some water of a suitable temperature.

I can bring hot water in a jar, but it's hard to raise the temperature like that.

It's easier to cool the temperature down.

Next time I'll make sure to use more heat.

"Roxanne's are really big."

"That's not true."

"But mine..."

As I'm checking the temperature I can hear two people chatting.
What those two are doing.

I'm jealous!

It's foul play for them to enjoy it on their own.

"Master, I'm coming in."

Roxanne and her foul play enters the bathroom.
That's definitely a foul.

Well, they are huge.

"Ahh... Excuse me."

Sherry comes in while looking down and hiding her chest.
Her cloths have been taken off and she's naked.
Oh the privilege of being the owner!

Even though she is small and thin, Sherry's style is good.
Her breasts also help her image.
They have some volume.
Her soft fair skin is dazzling.

"Well, should I wash?"

Even though I have the owners privilege I can't just keep staring forever.
Lathering some soap up I started to wash her body.
Straight for her body.

"Yes."

Roxanne comes in front of me.

There's big things shaking right in front of my eyes.
My eyes have no choice but to look.

"A~u. I thought so."

Sherry laments.

My eyes stay locked on Roxanne's chest though.
My hands go forward involuntarily.

I rub the soap over Roxanne.

The place I want to wash the most is washed the most.

I gently wash with both hands.

I trace my hands along the curve of the swelling mounds.

Roxanne's chest is great.

This feeling, this elasticity, this pounding, this weight.

Even without one of those they would still be wonderful.

This is the best.

"The best."

"Thank you."

The head and the back, Roxanne is one big mass of bubbles, excluding her tail.

"Next is Sherry."

"Ah. Yes."

If Sherry is standing nearby she really seems quite small.

I can't even see what expression she's making from my position.

She's thin, small and beautiful.

I kneel in the lamplight, and start painting bubbles.

I can go for her chest without holding back.

I extended my hand and started painting the bubbles on her collarbone.

"A~u, it's amazing."

This is quite good.

Roxanne's chest is big enough to spill out of the palms of my hands, will Sherry's chest fit in my hands completely?

A nice fit feeling will also be irresistibly good.

Spilling out is good, but a comfortable fit is also good.
The feeling of holding small birds or hamsters in the palm of your hand.

“Ah. Um. I’m sorry I’m so small.”

“You aren’t that small.”

“When I was in the village I thought that, but in the slave traders building there were people with huge chests and they were popular.”

Men buying sex slaves.

I don’t want to comment about it since I’m one of them.

“It’s fine, there’s no problem.”

“But Roxanne is…”

There’s already been some comparing.

“Sherry is quite short compared to Roxanne, and I don’t think it can be helped that her chest is smaller. I think you are quite well off for your height.”

There’s 20-30 centimeters of difference in their heights, so I think the difference in the size of their chests is natural.

If someone Sherry’s height had a chest like Roxanne I think it would be quite strange.

Since Sherry is short, I think her proportions have a good ratio.

“That’s right Sherry.”

“Really?”

“Really.”

“Ah, Thank you.”

Sherry calms down and I paint bubbles over her whole body.
I can enjoy her chest at any time again later.

“Now Sherry, we wash Master.”

“Yes. Um, how?”

“I do it like this.”

Roxanne embraces me from the left.

My left arm is caught in the valley of her chest. It's a wondrous thing.
It's completely surrounded by her breasts.
A wall of flesh presses around my arm.

And from the right is Sherry.
She doesn't have any strength, but it's lovely.

This is unbearable.
I am being washed carefully by two people.
They are washing from the right and the left, instead of the front and the back, and it's wonderful.

"Roxanne and I washed our hair yesterday, so Sherry's hair gets washed today. Sherry come in front of me, and Roxanne get behind her."

Sherry stands in front of me.
Since she's small it's a good height for washing her hair.
Her head comes up to the height I stretch out my arms.

I lather up some soap and rub it into her hair.
After rubbing her hair, large amounts of bubbles start forming.

Roxanne comes to my back.
Even though I asked her to go to Sherry's back.
Unexpectedly it became a line of washing.

I feel a rich swelling like balloons on my back.
Since it's my back I can't see what's happening.
I have to endure the sensations.

There's no choice so I continue to wash Sherry in front of me.
I scrub her hair to divert my attention.

Sherry's hair is quite fine.
There's not much resistance when rubbing through my fingers.
It doesn't look like it, but it feels light like cotton.

"This is good. Your hair is really soft and nice feeling."
"Ah, Thank you."
"It's hard to believe it's hair."

Because she's a dwarf, she might have different characteristics to humans.

The thin, light hair amuses me.

The bubbles started to decrease, so I add more soap.

After washing enough, we rinsed the soap down the drain.

Sherry's wet dark hair became flat and stuck to her skin.

She looks sort of like a doll.

Beautiful.

I got into the bath.

I dare to say it.

Roxanne's tail is amazing in the water.

Embracing Roxanne, I reached down and pat her tail.

The smooth feeling of it is irresistible.

I plop myself down into the bath while carrying Roxanne.

"Get in too, Sherry."

"Ah, yes."

Sherry timidly climbed in.

While shyly hiding her body, she slowly lowered herself into the water.

Despite her modesty, I pulled her towards me.

Roxanne is to my right, and Sherry is on my left.

This.

This luxury. This prosperity. This glorious feast.

A beautiful woman to my left and right.

I can freely touch their skin directly because we are naked in the bath.

Roxanne's big chest to my right.

Sherry's delicate lovely body to my left.



You could say that this is every man's dream.
This would be Hideyoshi's golden tea room, or Napoleon's coronation.
If it were Hitler, maybe a wedding ceremony?
Well, he commit suicide.

After the bath, two people help dry my body, and then we head to the bedroom.
Honestly, I did consider attacking them both in the bathroom.
There isn't any light in the bedroom.
While I regret it a little that I won't be able to see their bodies, it might be unavoidable.

"Come on, you two."
"Yes Master."
"Ah, yes. Um, is it alright for me to wear something so nice?"

Sherry speaks with a quiet voice.
She seems to have borrowed a white camisole from Roxanne for a night dress.
Roxanne is wearing a pink camisole.
I can't see them well because there is no light.

"It's fine."
"Thank you."

“Roxanne is also wearing one.”

“Well, she is number one.”

It's good that Roxanne isn't being unkind to Sherry.

“Ah, Sherry. Kiss me good night before I go to sleep, and kiss me good morning when I wake up.”

I told her the house rule, which Roxanne also has to follow.
I pulled Sherry into an embrace.
She is so petite it feels like she might break.

I can't hold out any longer.
My endurance is at its limits.

We kissed.

“Ah...”

As I kissed Sherry, Roxanne let out a small voice.
Just barely loud enough to hear.
A very small quiet voice.
It seems slightly sad.

It's a scream.
It must be a scream.
Even though she doesn't look gloomy, I can understand it from that voice.

Roxanne wants her “turn”.
That seems to be it.

There's another person with her Master.
Roxanne was first for everything before Sherry came.
First when serving meals, and first washing in the bathroom.

Of course that was the same with the good night kiss.
I should have kissed Roxanne before Sherry.

Damn.
I've stepped on a land mine.
I've stomped on Roxanne's honor.

Bad.

Very bad.

Even I think it's bad.

I'm bad because I've done something so thoughtless.

After kissing Sherry, I don't understand the sensations.
I don't understand the taste, I don't understand the softness.
The sole saving thing is that I didn't use my tongue.

What should I do?
How do I do this?

Think.
I need to think of something.
Don't just act, think!

"Ah, since this is a good night kiss, I'm saving the best, Roxanne for last."

This. Just this.
I figured out an excuse.
I forcefully rationalized it.
Somehow I found a fix for it.

"Yes, Master."

Roxanne's cheerful voice had changed drastically.
Safe.
I'm safe!
I've avoided the death sentence!

I sprawled down on the bed.
The news paper in my head has a headline saying I'm innocent.
Thank you.
The false accusation has been cleared.

I embraced Roxanne to my side.
Let's show something amazing.
I suck on Roxanne's lips relentlessly.

Revenge.
The fires of revenge burn brightly in my heart.

According to the “turn”, will this satisfy Roxanne?

Revenge has been achieved, and I lay exhausted on the bed.
I lay there comfortably and fatigued.
My mind doesn't want to do anything now.

I take a deep breath.
As I catch my breath I think of what should be done.
TN: Some time later...

色魔 Lv1

Sex Maniac Lv1

Effects: Small intellect increase, small MP increase, increased energy, abstinence attack.

What?
There it is.
A new job has been acquired.

Well, I had that kind of feeling.
This is expected if I do it so much.

What was the condition for getting this job?
Is it to have sex with two or more of the opposite sex?
Is it to have sex with two or more of the opposite sex at the same time?
Or...

I think about the intense actions from earlier.
Well, I have an idea of the conditions.

Maybe I got a little too into it?
Did I get excited more than normal?
Intensity and endurance, maybe that's it.

It should be alright since there were two partners.
I didn't put much strain on Sherry since it was her first time.
It might have been a bit more serious with Roxanne though.

Well, it seems I fall into the human category.
The human racial job is really Sex Maniac.
Humans might be horrible.

Two small increases and a medium increase is equivalent to Roxanne's Beast Soldier.

That might be a characteristic of a racial job.

Sex Maniac's spirit, intellect and MP increases will be useful as a supporting job for Wizard.

It wouldn't be good on it's own, but it should be quite useful for me.

"Master, she seems to be resting."

While quietly thinking, I heard Roxanne's voice.

She's not asleep.

Roxanne smoothed out my sweaty hair.

"Looks like it."

"That was intense."

Since I was lost in thought, I hadn't noticed.

As I spoke to Roxanne, I moved Sherry aside.

Since she is small, she isn't heavy at all.

"Was it alright?"

"Yes. With Sherry here today I was more enthusiastic than normal. I wasn't sure what to expect, if I'd like it, but it's good that Sherry came."

Roxanne seems to have been a bit anxious about it.

I thank Roxanne in my heart.

I'm glad that I love Roxanne for being Roxanne.

"Things are fine?"

"Yes, Master is a good Master and even now didn't overdo it with Sherry."

I wanted to try out the increased energy and skill from the Sex Maniac job, but it doesn't seem like the time for it.

"Thank you."

"Thank you too."

The conversation felt like a lullaby, and my consciousness slipped away.

Chapter 52: Never give up

(TL: Title originally in English)

*

When I wake up, I was hugging Roxanne like a pillow.

Our legs entwined. My hands around Roxanne's back.

Waking up so early in the morning with beautiful women on both sides is really pleasant.

My mornings have never been so pleasant before.



Lying like this between the two, I can't move.

Both my hands and feet are completely clinging to Roxanne.

Have I really been longing for Roxanne's back hair so much?

I wonder if Sherry is too small to be a body pillow.

Roxanne's breasts are supple as ever.

Because I'm hugging her from front, I can savor this suppleness to my heart's content.

I tighten my embrace a little to test it out.

Having gotten squeezed a little, they spring back out with incredible force.

This is irresistible.

“N~”

While I was having fun with her breasts, Roxanne kisses me.

This is bad.

It seems she's up.

I'm totally busted.

"Good morning, master."

"G-Good morning."

I greet her back in a constrained voice.

"Ah, good morning."

Sherry too seems to be up.

For she greets from behind me.

Feeling guilty, I take my arms away from around Roxanne, turn around, and embrace Sherry.

"Good morning to you too, Sherry."

I say that and place my lips on hers.

Sherry is still clumsy at kissing.

So it's difficult to kiss her.

But I have come to love it somehow.

Although it feels a lot better how actively Roxanne responds to my kiss, it's wrong to compare them, I think.

Sherry will get accustomed to it over time.

I can't help but seek Roxanne's lips again when I was changing into my clothes.

Roxanne's tongue entwines with mine.

Our tongues entwined. Lips wriggling. Mouths slurping.

Because Roxanne said she loves it, there shouldn't be any problem.

Because I haven't selected Sex Maniac job yet, it shouldn't be Enhanced Vigor skill at work.

Kaga Michio Male 17 years old

Explorer Lv33 Hero Lv30 Wizard Lv32 Monk Lv 31 Alchemist Lv 17

Equipment: Wand Leather Cap Hide Armor Hide Gloves Leather Boots
Roxanne Female 16 years old

Beast Warrior Lv19

Equipment: Scimitar Wooden Shield Hide Cap Hide Jacket Hide Gloves
Hide Boots Sherry Female 16 years old

Villager Lv3

Equipment: Hammer Hide Cap Hide Jacket Hide Mitten Sandal Boots
We check our stuff and get ready to go.

The more jobs I get, the more jobs I want to select.

Because Party Formation skill is necessary, I can not cancel Explorer
job.

Effects of Hero and Wizard jobs are too great to cancel.

Taking emergency situations into consideration, I can not cancel Monk
job either.

Now it all comes down to Alchemist, Cook and Sex Maniac. I can't
decide on one.

Other people can pick only one job at a time. Luxury of choice can be
problematic sometimes.

Human greed knows no bounds after all.

By the way, it seems party will dissolve automatically, if I cancel
Explorer job.

Also, to make use of Item Box skill of Cook job, Explorer job can
alternatively be entrusted to another member of the party.

“All ready.”

“Let's go then.”

Sherry reports and we Warp to the labyrinth.

Early morning. Vale town labyrinth floor 2.

“Master, why here?”

“Vale town labyrinth floor 2 is perfect for Sherry’s first time in our party.”

Roxanne can tell from the smell that it’s not Quratar town labyrinth floor 7

I shortly explain it to ease her doubts.

“I see. I understand.”

“First, I want to see Sherry’s fighting style. I will weaken the monsters with my magic, then Sherry will attack and finish off what’s left.”

“Y-Yes.”

“Roxanne will take the frontline and hold the monsters back.”

“Very well.”

I open up bonus points distribution interface, and allocate half of the points to Intelligence to be able to kill Lv2 monsters in one magic attack.

Surviving monsters shall be left for Sherry.

Sherry swings her hammer.

And hits a Green Caterpillar Lv2 in its guts.

That must have been quite an impact.

Enraged, the monster launches a counterattack. Roxanne easily sidesteps.

For Roxanne, dodging that was a piece of cake.

Sherry takes that opportunity to strike it with her hammer.

Good team work.

With that, Sherry takes out the monster.

“Oh well, that was no good.”

I immediately open up party job settings interface, but Master Smith job

was not there.

So taking them out with hammer is not the condition.

Or perhaps it also needs Villager Lv5?

“Was it not good enough?”

“Ah, no, Sherry did well. Next time, please use this spear.”

Oops, a slip of tongue.

It was not completely in vain, I think.

After that, we tried copper spear, copper sword, and bare-handed attacks, but nothing resulted in a new job.

Most probably, Villager Lv5 is another condition for Swordsman and Monk.

To ascertain it, we will have to wait for Villager job to level up.

“Uh!”

As expected, Sherry is taking hits from monsters when she takes them on bare-handed.

It can't be helped. I too received hits from monsters when I was fighting bare-handed.

But it's not to the extent of causing concern, for Roxanne is engaging them from the front.

“How are the monster attacks? Is their level too high?”

I ask Sherry while healing her injuries.

“I-Is this Recovery magic?”

“That is so.”

“Like I thought, multiple jobs... Ah, no. One or two attacks of this extent are not a problem.”

Sherry answers me while fighting.

Even under attack, she looks composed.

To get Recovery magic, you have to understand pain, you have to receive damage.

It seems safe now to proceed.

Next, it will be I to take them out with hammer.

By acquiring a job from taking a monster out with hammer, it can be ascertained whether or not taking a monster out with hammer is the condition to acquire Master Smith job.

I raise my hammer up high and crash it down hard on a Green Caterpillar Lv2.

“Unfortunately, I’m not as skillful.”

“To swing that, it would be better to use centrifugal force more.”

Hammer is more difficult for me to use than swords because I’m not used to it.

Because it’s centre of gravity is located at the farther end, you use its weight to strike.

Each weapon has its own qualities.

The monster is somehow dead, and I immediately check out my jobs.

A moment of anxiety. Anxiety of anticipation.

However, there is no new job.

I use spear next but the result remains same.

“What do I do now?”

“No, I have to keep trying.”

I now have Roxanne use spear and hammer to see if she gets a new job.

I use wand now to take out monsters, but nothing. That’s right, not all weapons have related jobs, it seems.

Or probably the conditions to acquire them are not yet met?

In the end, we were not able to acquire any new job, including Master Smith.

“Getting used to it is not difficult, but strength is necessary to wield it. I still like swords better, however.”

Roxanne comments as she takes out a monster with hammer.

Hammer seems to be exclusive to Sherry here.

Although she looks like she can use spear, I decide against it, for Roxanne is our vanguard. She confronts monsters from close distance, while spear needs you to maintain some distance.

Roxanne should continue to be our vanguard.

Having tried various things out, we move to Quratar town labyrinth to go further up the floors.

Sherry was not able to try out Kobolds on Vale town labyrinth floor 3, but it can't be helped.

Even if we go up to higher floors, Sherry can fight the monsters without any difficulty.

Sherry might be small and cute, but when she is in battle, she looks dignified.

She might not be at Roxanne's level, but she is closer to me.

In the world of Rakugo, I'm a Rakugo artist who fortunately got better plot, and now I'm competing with top Rakugo artists who got better skills than me. Take the plot away from me, and I'm hardly competing with those below me. (TL: Rakugo is traditional comic storytelling in Japan.) If I think about it, Sherry and I are probably competing with each other.

“Uh!”

We come across a group of 3 monsters on floor 5. Sherry receives an attack from a monster.

Facing a group of 3, I too receive attacks.

“Are you alright?”

“I'm fine. I have fought on floor 8 before. Floor 5 should not be a problem.”

I ask while healing her injuries. Sherry firmly replies.

“No, equipment and party members among other things are different this time. It’s better to use zero-based approach. Also, monsters attack aggressively every so often.”

“Thank you. Still, I’ll be fine.”

Real cause of my concern is the fact that I have leveled her down from Explorer Lv10 to Villager Lv3.

I have yet to tell her about her job change.

I had no choice but to postpone this.

With time, when Sherry comes to trust me more, she might accept her job change.

“I hope you will be.”

When I look at Roxanne for her opinion, she nods reassuringly.

Although I’m not completely free of my worries, it seems fine for now.

We move to floor 6.

To test Sex Maniac job, I add one more job slot to make it 6 jobs.

Because it’s scary to suddenly go fight without Plating.

“Continuing on from where I left off last night, let’s see what kind of skill this Sex Maniac job has.”

“Sherry, do you know about it?”

Because it appears awkward to ask only Sherry about such a thing, I turn to Roxanne, who simply shrugs.

‘Why are you asking me?’ kind of expression.

Okay, from now on, I will direct all my questions to Sherry.

“I don’t know either. This job is not openly known, so not many rumors about it are passed around.”

Yeah, it would be terrible to talk about such a thing.

Even if you successfully get Sex Maniac job, you won't talk to your parents and siblings about it with your chest puffed with pride.

And on top of that, the condition for acquiring it.

Sex Maniac Lv1

Effects: Medium Increase in Spirit Small Increase in Intelligence Small Increase in MP

Skills: Enhanced Vigor Celibacy Strike

Presumably, Enhanced Vigor is a passive skill and Celibacy Strike is an active skill.

Having selected Sex Maniac job, what I'm afraid of is getting turned on indiscriminately by anyone.

However, if it's Roxanne, I would obviously not mind doing this and that.

It won't be out of norm.

You can't live long with Sex Maniac job, when you're in heat all the time.

But there's always prison.

So it's probably gonna be alright.

Actually it might be possible to live in confinement.

In the whole town, I haven't seen a single human with Sex Maniac job.

So it is indeed not a job that's publicly known.

I try to test out Celibacy Strike.

Roxanne finds a Mino Lv6 as I take Durandal out.

Calling for Celibacy Strike in my mind, I slash at the Mino.

Relying on an attack I'm using for the first time, I hit that Mino Lv6.

What's this?

Weak!

So weak!

Pathetically slow attack!

Perhaps Celibacy Strike is not an active skill, considering how weak that attack was? An active skill has to be better than that.

Is Celibacy Strike only for celibates to use?

That's not fair!

Once again. This time I try normal attack.

The monster was still not down.

It takes two normal attacks of Durandal to take out monsters of floor 6.

Because my first strike was so weak, the monster was still not down after taking second attack.

Celibacy Strike is weaker than even a normal attack, it seems.

If you use a powerful skill, it might even be possible to one-hit monsters of floor 6. To think I added one more job slot and increased my jobs to 6 only to test out Sex Maniac job – Aweful.

Perhaps there are conditions of its use?

Perhaps you have to make a live sacrifice on 7th day every month to make it work?

I'll try Celibacy Strike one more time. If it's same as last time, it really is a pathetic skill.

I take my stance in the mean time.

For now, I'll use a normal attack of Durandal to finish this Mino off.

The monster falls, turns into smoke, and disappears.

Leaving pelt behind.

“Come to think of it, Sherry must have picked up pelt before.”

I ask Sherry casually when I see pelt.

“I did not. In the labyrinth I entered before, Mino is a monster that

appears on higher floors.”

Oh, that was unexpected.

Earlier, by picking up leaf – raw material used in making poison antidote pill – I acquired Herbalist job, which can produce poison antidote pills.

Perhaps Master Smith job can be acquired by picking up raw materials used in making equipment?

“Please pick it up.”

“Yes.”

Nervously, I take a peek at Roxanne’s face for her expression.

She might get angry for not asking her.

Well, it’s not like there’s a change in practice.

Until now, she has never picked up dropped items, nor she expressly asked for it.

I have all the dropped items in my Item Box.

When master and slave both have Item Box, it’s normal for master to use his Item Box.

It’s alright to use backpack though. Unlike Item Box, items can not be misappropriated from backpack.

If Sherry were to use her Item Box, she would find out that she’s not an Explorer.

I receive pelt from Sherry, put away my Durandal, and open up party job settings interface to check Sherry’s jobs out.

No luck.

Picking up pelt does not seem to be the condition for acquiring Master Smith job.

Picking up pelt is not recognized as an ability, it seems, unlike picking up medicinal plants.

“I haven’t sold any pelt I got so far. Let’s have someone make better equipment out of it later on.”

“Umm... I’m sorry. If that’s the case, I had a Master Smith teacher.”

I say that casually, but Sherry apologizes to me.

No, no, I didn’t mean it like that.

But it can be interpreted as such.

I can’t be careless about what I say.

It seems people who stand above others have limitations of their own.

“Speaking of which, there is an exception to the condition that you must not be over Lv10 Explorer to become a Master Smith. What is that exception?”

I try to gloss over what I said before.

“The Temple of Elen.”

“Elen?”

“Unlike guilds, that only assign corresponding jobs, the Temple of Elen can assign any job by way of oracle. The job is one in which the person is most apt at.”

Roxanne explains.

In this world, if you need to change your job, you have to visit guilds or the Temple. In a guild, you can change your job only to the profession that the guild belongs to.

Merchant guild for Merchant job, Explorer guild for Explorer job, and so on.

In the Temple, however, you can change to a random job.

“I see. Thank you.”

No, not random. The job a person is assigned is based largely on merit.

My question is, can I only change to a job I have already acquired? or I can be assigned a job I haven’t acquired yet?

Guilds can only change to those jobs that have already been acquired. Is the Temple of Elen the same?

“The first emperor’s job, Hero, was assigned by the Temple of Elen.”

“Well, did the first emperor save some village from bandit attack at some point?”

“Yes, the first emperor’s first battle was to suppress bandits.”

Affirms Sherry.

Bingo!

Getting rid of thieves is the condition for obtaining Hero job.

It’s possible that it only needs you to repel them, not kill.

It was first battle for me as well.

In this world, you first undertake training by killing monsters, before attacking thieves. It is quite rare to go and attack thieves without any prior training.

For this reason, Hero job is extremely rare.

The first emperor, whose first battle was to suppress thieves, acquired Hero job.

It was not the Temple of Elen that assigned Hero job to the first emperor. The Temple of Elen only changed the job to one that the first emperor had already acquired.

Even if I take Sherry to the Temple of Elen, it is highly unlikely for her to get assigned Master Smith job, because she hasn’t acquired it yet.

“Would Sherry be happy if she becomes Master Smith?”

“N-No.”

“Is that so?”

I don’t think it is so.

Sherry is looking at the ground.

And then, she somehow manages to get these words out of her mouth.

“Because I have already given up.”

Don't give up! You... Don't you give up!

Chapter 53: Wipe Out

*

Apparently, Sherry has given up on becoming Master Smith. I need to somehow raise her spirit. What should I do?

“Even if I become a Master Smith, it will only add to your troubles now that I’m already a slave.”

Huh? What was that about?

So a slave becoming a Master Smith is considered troublesome?

And because I’m pushing her to acquire Master Smith job, I might end up looking suspicious.

“Come on, don’t worry. I’ll manage it somehow, if it comes to that.”

So don’t say something like that.

Sherry is worried about causing trouble to me, if she becomes a Master Smith.

So I can’t be selfish now. I must not push it any further.

“If master says it’ll be alright, it’ll be alright. There won’t be any problem.”

“Okay.”

Roxanne tries to encourage her as well.

I wonder where this faith of hers is coming from.

But that’s right, I will certainly take care of it.

“Well then, let’s get done with floor 6 and move on to floor 7. I’ll be wiping out the monsters. Sherry will not take part in the attack. You will coordinate with Roxanne, and focus on defending and dodging.”

Monsters on floor 6 can not be killed in one blow by a Villager Lv4.

Having confirmed that, we proceed to floor 7.

Because we have been going to floor 7 as of late, we have the floor map with us.

I open up bonus points distribution interface, and allocate points toward increasing Gained Experience option.

Increased experience is equally distributed among all party members.

It'll help Sherry in leveling up quickly.

At the same time, I lower Crystallization Speed option. Quick earning is not our objective for now.

Required Experience 1/10th 31 points, Gained Experience 20x 63 points, Crystallization Speed 16x 15 points, 5th Job 15 points, Incantation Omission 3 points, MP Recovery Speed, Appraisal, Job Settings, Character Reset 4 points. Total 131 points.

I reduce jobs back to 5, and cancel Sex Maniac.

Although I want to select Cook job, for the monsters here on floor 7 of Quratar town labyrinth being Slow Rabbits, Plating of Alchemist is indispensable.

“Sherry, approach from near the wall.”

“Okay.”

Coordinating with each other, Roxanne and Sherry proceed per map.

Three monsters appear. Roxanne takes on two of them while Sherry takes on one.

There's nothing for me to do here.

However, because there are monster groups of four on floor 8, we can't move on further up for now.

Against lone monsters or groups of two, Roxanne engages them from the front while Sherry attacks them from the side.

Although spear would be better for situations such as this, it is difficult

to change the weapon one is used to, so she's still sticking to using hammer.

"I'm getting used to it somewhat."

"Yes, the more we spend time cooperating, the better it will get. I look forward to it, Sherry."

"I should be the one saying that. I look forward to it."

Actually, it's more comfortable being rearguard compared to vanguard. Because vanguard has to slash, stab, and hit from the front. The workload of both is uneven. Vanguard's is more.

Every mistake is painful, for you receive enemy's attack.

If you're not skilled enough, you might even die.

There's an enormous pressure from the responsibility of guarding the party.

Being vanguard is really difficult.

Rearguard is not burdened with all that.

If I'm in the rear, and there's no danger of getting completely wiped out, I might even go to the top floor of the labyrinth.

But there might be a strong monster there that attacks entire party at the same time with its magic.

If I go to buy a slave vanguard, even the Slave Merchant would be reluctant, for its scary capturing one.

No matter how much I'm grateful to Roxanne, it's not enough.

"Roxanne, thank you so much."

"Yes...?"

"By the way, does Sherry know about various types of magic?"

Turning away from Roxanne, who is still confused, I ask Sherry.

“I don’t know the details of Wizard job, but there are three standard types of magic. Area of Effect attack magic, single target attack magic, and defence magic.”

Storm, Ball, and Wall are three different types of magic.

So I couldn’t cast fourth type of magic because there wasn’t any?

“Master, the sun will be up soon.”

After Roxanne says that, we continue with the exploration.

Roxanne’s body clock is pretty accurate.

Because I have been dependent on clocks all my life, I lose track of it many a time.

Especially when exploring floors, like now.

Status of early morning exploration so far.

I open up party job settings interface, and check Sherry’s jobs out.

Villager Lv5, Explorer Lv10, Herbalist Lv1, Warrior Lv1, Merchant Lv1, Shrine Maiden Lv1, Swordsman Lv1, Monk Lv1 (TL: I wanted to use Shaman instead of Shrine Maiden, but it would be mentioned later in the chapter that this job is female-only, so I went with Shrine Maiden.)

Villager job is up to Lv5 now.

But there’s still no Master Smith job.

Was Villager Lv5 not one of the conditions?

But for Warrior and other jobs, Villager Lv5 was the condition, it seems.

“What? There’s such a job as Shrine Maiden?”

Oops.

I inadvertently say it out loud.

“ ... ”

Sherry looks at me somewhat sad.

Roxanne's expression was contrastingly warm.

What? Am I a pitiable child now?

Damn it! Not again.

Not the same mistake again.

To people around me, I might look like some crazy guy saying weird things.

Without any delay, I call for Warp in my mind, and escape to Adventurer Guild of Quratar town.

Because we need to buy bread for breakfast, I didn't warp directly to our home.

"Sherry, has your hair always been like that?"

We return home and take our equipment off.

When Sherry takes her cap off, her hair was strangely soft.

It look more fluffy now.

It look light.

"That's right, it seems to be more in volume than yesterday."

Roxanne's hand reaches out for Sherry's hair.

"Is that so?"

"Ah, it's so soft."

"Thank you."

"Master, it's so soft."

I noticed it when I washed her hair last night.

"Can I touch it?"

“Yes, please.”

Having received Sherry’s acknowledgment, I first caress Roxanne’s head gently.

I don’t want to make same mistake a second time.

Order is absolute.

“Ah~”

When I place my hand on Roxanne’s head, she gets bashfully delighted.
Cute.

Touching Roxanne feels so good.

Perks of living in this world.

While my right hand is caressing Roxanne’s head, I place my left hand on Sherry’s head.

So fluffy.

“Oh, it really is soft. Your hair is so good.”

“Th-Thank you.”

Last night, it felt more stiff.

I wonder if it became light after having been washed last night.

If so, how long has she been amassing dust in her hair?

Perhaps she never washed her head since she was born.

Now that I think about it, Roxanne’s ears feel more fluffy puffy as well.

Before breakfast, I took my time playing with Roxanne’s ears and Sherry’s hair.

“By the way, is there any job called Shrine Maiden?”

During breakfast, I bring up the topic of Shrine Maiden.

It should be fine now to talk about it.

“ ... ”

Although I thought it was fine to talk about it, Sherry is looking down with a sad expression on her face.

“Ah, no, I suddenly remembered something from a while back.”

“What I said back in the labyrinth?”

“No, no. It’s different.”

“ ... ”

“No, no, no.”

Even going to the extent of reacting like that?

“Because I failed to become a Master Smith, I wanted to be a Shrine Maiden. But...”

Sherry tells us in a low voice.

She is still looking down.

I get it now.

I get what you want to say.

She didn’t have Shrine Maiden job until a while ago.

So she can’t expect herself to be a Shrine Maiden.

Because she couldn’t become a Master Smith, she wanted to be a Shrine Maiden. But she failed even at that.

The shock would indeed be great.

To apply for a university twice, and fail both times.

“Oh, come on, there’s no need to be so sad.”

Most probably her Villager level was not enough at that time.

“Yes. Because I can work as an Explorer, it’s alright.”

Sherry says that and lifts her head up.

Actually, she’s not even an Explorer right now.

But this positivity is much appreciated.

Shrine Maiden Lvl

Effects: Small Increase in MP Slight Increase in Intelligence

Skill: Group Healing

“Hmm? This shrine maiden skill-”

“...”

“...Do you know about it?”

Oh shit!

I almost stepped on a landmine again.

Anyway, talking about Shrine Maiden skill.

It’s not ordinary Healing, but Group Healing.

A Shrine Maiden can heal entire party.

“Recovery magic.”

“So it’s female version of Monk.”

From the sound of it, Shrine Maiden is a female-only job.

Actually, it would be funny if men could become Shrine Maiden.

“Male version of Shrine Maiden is Priest.”

Now that I think about it, Roxanne has Monk job, even though she’s a female.

Sherry has both Monk and Shrine Maiden jobs.

So a Priest can heal whole party while a Monk can heal only an individual.

However, healing an entire party should require considerable expenditure of MP. Full recovery of MP should be slow, which might be a downside of this job.

Currently, there's no monster that uses Area of Effect attacks, so Monk should be enough.

“How can a male become a Priest, and a female become a Shrine Maiden?”

“By severing ties. I-I couldn't.”

Indeed.

“Let's me guess... to get something you desire, let go of something you have.”

“I went to Holy Orders Guild. Then I traveled to sacred grounds to undertake isolation training of striking through waterfall.”

“Striking through waterfall?”

“It is believed that when you strike through waterfall, your body and soul unify. In that moment of unification, appears a momentary flash of enlightenment. In order to gain enlightenment, I traveled all the way to the waterfall in sacred grounds, but...”

Sherry averts her eyes.

No, she did gain enlightenment, for she has Shrine Maiden job now.

“But it's alright. I have heard that only half of the applicants succeed in becoming Shrine Maiden. Even if I'm not a Shrine Maiden, there shouldn't be any problem in exploring labyrinth.”

“Of course, there's no problem.”

“Okay.”

Roxanne is comforting her as well.

“Still, they should mention at the time of application that you have to be

Villager Lv5 or above.”

“Yes?”

“No, nothing.”

Even if you travel all the way to the waterfall. Even if you undertake isolation training. Even if you unify your body and soul, and gain enlightenment. If you're not Villager Lv5, you won't be able to acquire Shrine Maiden job.

The tragedy like Sherry's can be avoided, if they apply condition of Villager Lv5 or above at the time of application.

“...”

“Master, you might not know because you're an Explorer, but there's no such thing as level in other jobs, unlike Explorer.”

Because Sherry fell silent, seemingly troubled, Roxanne explains to me.

“Eh? Is that so?”

“Yes.”

“The more experience an Explorer gains, the bigger his Item Box gets. That indicates his level. However, there's no such indicator for other jobs, not to mention Villager.”

In my case, when I started in the village, I was Villager Lvl.

Now that I think about it, the only way of knowing level is through using Appraisal and Job Settings.

That, however, is not accessible to other people.

Even Intelligence Card mentions only first job. There's no indication of level on it.

In this world, level is an unknown.

“I see. So it was like that.”

“I-It's alright. Even though master didn't know that, he did great in the labyrinth, so there's no problem.”

“Exactly, there’s no problem at all.”

I’m being cheered up. Strange indeed.

I hadn’t heard much about things like level from other people, but I didn’t feel anything out of place.

I never imagined it to be like that.

“Master will remain master, even if you don’t know a thing or two.”

“Even if a great scholar were to live a few years in a cask, there would be some things he wouldn’t know when he comes out.”

How can this be considered cheering up?

“W-Well then, let’s continue with exploration of floor 7 of the labyrinth after this.”

Damn it!

Are they disappointed that their master is a child at mind?

Exploration of floor 7 of Vale town labyrinth proceeded smoothly.

Because we are still not confident, albeit subconsciously, we are still not moving on to floor 8.

After spending all morning in exploration of floor 7, the first thing we do in the afternoon is arrive at the boss room.

Because Sherry planned to go shopping in the afternoon, to buy some stuff for her personal use, we had to speed up our exploration.

If we clear floor 7 now, we will move on to floor 8 tomorrow morning.

There are several people waiting next to the boss room.

A party seems to be in the middle of the battle.

Although there are relatively less people in Vale town labyrinth, it doesn’t mean there are no people at all.

The boss battle is taking long.

Because it's daytime, there are many people, it seems.

Next to the boss room, there are six people in waiting. All men. Are they all one party?

I try to judge them from the look in their eyes.

Their eyes were clearly on Roxanne.

Filled with obvious, lecherous look.

Th-These guys!

Should I turn them all into Durandal's rust at this very spot?

But before it could happen, the ongoing boss battle finishes.

The door to the boss room opens.

After having one last, long look at Roxanne, those men enter the boss room.

"Bastards!"

"They were all one party after all."

Sherry and I both are feeling disgusted.

Not just Roxanne, they were also staring at Sherry's chest.

I assure you, I won't let it go just like that.

"Such filthy looking eyes."

Roxanne finally speaks.

Of course, it's not possible for her to not notice it.

But then, does she also notice the look in my eyes?

"Never mind."

"Okay."

Putting Durandal away, I take Recovery Pills out, and pass on to Roxanne and Sherry for emergency situations.

Also, I give a Copper Spear to Sherry.

“It would be better to use spear this time.”

“Umm... is this for boss battle?”

“It indeed is.”

“This floor’s boss is Pan, a boss level Escape Goat. Pan is a magic using half-human half-goat. Its magic is considerably strong. Roxanne-san should attack it from close range, and dodge its attacks. Its weakness is its head. It’s considered fairly strong within lower floors. Previous party must have had skill type weapons too, I believe. Normally, it’s better to use skill type weapons with Incantation Delay skill when fighting against Pan.”

Sherry lectures me and I nod.

I see.

It’s effective to gather information before fighting a monster.

It really helps.

Although the floor they appear on may differ from one labyrinth to another, same monsters appear in different labyrinths. So it’s easy to gather information on monsters, even if the labyrinth is relatively new.

However, we never gathered any information on monsters.

Oh well, it can’t be helped.

Because I don’t want to disclose any information to others.

If you use radar to trace enemy, the enemy can use that to trace back your position.

When you can’t tell your left from your right, it’s useless to know what’s on your right.

“It’s great that you know about monsters. I knew Sherry would be a great

help.”

“Th-Thank you.”

“I’ll be relying on you, please take care of me.”

I’ll ask Sherry to collect information from now on. It seems quite useful.

“Yes.”

“It’s alright though, because we have a weapon with Incantation Interruption skill.”

I show her Durandal.

“Didn’t this sword have MP Absorption skill?”

“It has Incantation Interruption skill too.”

“...”

I withdraw it while answering.

Sherry first looks at me, then looks at the sword, frightened.

Her gaze intensifies.

I’m afraid it might become a habit.

“I-Is there something wrong?”

“Umm... I know it’s not impossible for a weapon to have multiple skills attached, but to see one in real, that’s...”

“Is it rare?”

“When fusion of a monster card with a normal weapon fails, the weapon disintegrates into raw materials. However, when fusion of a monster card with a skill type weapon fails, previously fused monster card is completely lost.”

If fusing a monster card with a weapon that already has a skill attached to it fails, the card that was first fused with the weapon is lost, and the weapon disintegrates into raw materials.

Fusion of a monster card with a weapon results mostly in failure.
And if you successfully attach a skill to your weapon, you will not take an even bigger risk for a second skill.

Therefore, not many people try to get more than one skills.

Such a risk can only be assumed by a great challenger, who can afford such a big loss.

If you try otherwise, you're an utter fool.

Her eyes carry such kind of expression

Because I would try it, if there's a Master Smith who is acquainted with Sherry, who can be trusted.

"Oh, the door is open now. Let's go."

Because the door to the boss room has finally opened, I decide to escape from this situation.

This is first time someone is escaping to the boss room.

I'm sure no one will experience such a thing.

"Very well."

"Okay."

With the door now open, I rush into the boss room.

"Woah!"

When I'm in, I let out a surprised voice.

Equipment are scattered all around in the boss room.

On one side, there are swords and armors piled up on the ground.

There are gauntlets and boots too, about 20 pairs.

In the middle of that pile of equipment is someone, looking not much different from a beast, standing on two feet, just like a human.

A human?

It glances our way and scowls at us.

It looks like a human wearing a mask. An eerie face.

With two ominous horns growing on its head.

Pan Lv7

Half-human half-beast. A monster with legs and horns of a goat.

The boss moves out of the pile, and the equipment around it roll away.

It means the party that went in before us has been completely wiped out by the boss.

Chapter 54: Beast Attack

*

Equipment was scattered all over the boss room on Vale Labyrinths seventh floor.

This probably means that the parties who wore this equipment have been wiped out.

Were those men who had been indecently looking at Roxanne annihilated?

You could say they got divine punishment for their actions.

“Roxanne take the front. Sherry move the equipment out of the way.”

“Yes.”

The fight has already begun.

I can't get too distracted focusing on the area.

I give some quick instructions.

I push the thoughts about the men who died here into the back of my mind.

It's not something I need to worry about anyway.

It's understandable that someone would die on the battlefield if their thoughts were too focused on the opposite sex.

Even I make an effort while I'm in the Labyrinth to not focus too much on Roxanne's chest.

A very serious effort.

For now, it won't be easy to fight with equipment lying around our feet. Something needs to be done about it.

It's likely that someone would trip at a crucial time.

I move around to the demons side & kick a gauntlet and some boots towards the wall as I move.

Roxanne takes up a position in front of the demon.

Sherry moves a sword that belonged to the previous party towards the wall.

There's some dangerous things lying around.

A red magic formation appears at Pan's feet.

It happened immediately?

According to Sherry, Pan uses some strong magic.

I raise Durandal and jump at the demons chest.

One cut from it's upper right.

From the half-man's shoulder to it's waist in an exaggerated strike.

"That? A single strike?"

Pan collapsed after being struck by Durandal.

The demon just fell down.

"It seems so."

The half-man, half goat becomes smoke and disappears.

It seems it really was a single blow.

Huh?

Weak.

No matter what, there's no way I would have thought it would be weaker than an escape goat.

Goat Meat.

It dropped Goat Meat.

Is that really the dropped item of a half-man?

The reality of it doesn't make much sense.

We got an ingredient for dinner.

"It seems to have annihilated the previous party. Maybe it's physical strength was worn down by them."

Sherry brings over the sword that belonged to the previous party.

Pan didn't appear after we entered the boss room. He was already there.

It seems if the previous party is annihilated, the boss fight continues. It doesn't start from scratch.

Damage suffered from the previous party is still there.

"Hmm, so that's how it is."

“It seems that indecent party was wiped out.”

Roxanne mutters with hostility.

Sherry mutters “people who judge someone from the size of their chest should die”, but I want to pretend I didn’t hear it.

Because it’s scary.

I took the sword.

Bronze sword of Obstruction. Two-handed. Skill: Incantation delay.

“They even went to the trouble of preparing a weapon with [Incantation Delay].”

“You can tell just by looking at it?”

Sherry looks up at me.

“Well...”

“Oh, did you possibly use [Weapon Analyze] without the incantation?”

I was going to proudly confirm it, but the gaze goes away.

Sure I have the weapon merchant job, but...

Aren’t you surprised anymore?

Damn.

“As expected of Master.”

Yes.

Roxanne is my oasis.

A man needs a little admiration.

“If we attack with weapons that have [incantation delay] then enemies magic will be delayed.”

“Yes, but weren’t you able to cancel it?”

Sherry takes the Bronze Sword of Obstruction again.

There are five Bronze Swords of Obstruction.

There’s also another Wand.

Was one of the six a monk or a priest? Or maybe a wizard?

I forgot to use [Analyze] because I got angry at the looks they gave Roxanne.

“Wasn’t five people enough?”

“I don’t know.”

They got it to the stage where I could defeat it with Durandal in a single blow.

Things probably went well for the first half.

Was there an accident? Couldn’t five people finish it without having Pan’s magic go off?

With five people attacking in succession, wouldn’t it have been fine?

When one person was defeated things probably became chaotic.

I became a little sad imagining it.

“When you rely on information and strategy too much, things can collapse if one piece doesn’t fall into place. It is important to steadily increase in ability.”

“Yes. I’ll do my best, Master.”

I don’t need to say it to Roxanne.

“That might be so.”

The top-heavy person nods as well.

“Do remains disappear?”

“People defeated by the labyrinth are absorbed and digested quickly.”

After the sword, Sherry brings the gauntlet I kicked about.

It’s what I expect from a Labyrinth that lures in people as food.

“Equipment can’t be digested?”

“It’s a foreign substance to the Labyrinth.”

“Is that so.”

“It would get vomited out sooner or later.”

That reminds me, the equipment of dead people become treasure chests.

It’s definitely a foreign substance if it gets vomited out later as a treasure chest.

“I see.”

“Since it’s a foreign substance, it can take a while to absorb.”

Since it takes a while, that means that the next party against the boss can pick it up?

“Wearing too much equipment from dead people doesn’t seem like a good idea though.”

The previous party had mainly focused on weapons with skills, so there isn’t really any better armor.

At the most there is leather gloves and shoes.

“The equipment from the defeated party goes to the next party. I’ll give it all some maintenance when we get home so it will be fine.”

Roxanne is always persistent about maintenance.
Are you fine now that Roxanne has said it will be alright?

There are several leather armors amongst the protective gear, but I’m the only one who wears that.

“What is it?”

“Is selling it the only thing we can do with the leather armor?”

I didn’t say anything.
I don’t think I said anything.
I was just staring at the leather armor.
“Very small.” mutters Sherry with her paranoid complex.

There were also six magic crystals.
One was red, one was blue, and the rest are purple.
They don’t seem to have defeated many demons.
I put all the equipment into my item box and we leave the boss room.

“We started that fight half way, do we need to fight it again?”
“I think we could use the experience.”
“I think so too, I would like to fight it again to learn Pan’s attack patterns.”

I said too much, so I was roped into it.
It’s not possible to walk straight back into the boss room, so after exiting

to the 8th floor, I use [Dungeon walk] to return to one of the small rooms on the 7th floor.

It seems I can't go straight to the boss's waiting room.

I have a feeling that [Warp] could go there, but it would be bad if someone was there & saw.

“Aside from that magic attack, Pan didn't seem to have any weapons. I'd like to try using my skill. Is that alright Master?”

Roxanne asks before entering the boss room.

Was a beast warriors skill beast attack?

I always have Roxanne take the front when fighting demons.

It's difficult to do other things while using an incantation, so it would be hard to use a skill while facing the demon from the front.

“That's fine. Sherry, can you try and handle Pan from the front?”

“I'll try my best.”

Sherry nods.

Will it be alright?

“When the incantation begins, I'll cancel it. Roxanne use that chance to use your skill.”

“Thank you.”

She has the skill, so it should be usable.

It might be useful in an emergency.

It will be good to test it out in actual combat.

Since Pan uses a magic attack, it's a good chance.

“I think we're ready. Let's go.”

The door opened, and we entered the boss room.

Sherry takes the front, and we surround the boss from three sides.

Sherry attacks with her club, and I follow up with Durandal from a rear angle.

It seems it won't be defeated in a single blow.

“warriors of the beasts xx? Unleash the united power of xxxx, beast attack.”

Roxanne also recites a skill, and attacks with the scimitar. She hesitates a bit, and part of it isn't translated. Even though the attack hit, it didn't seem like anything out of the ordinary.

It's likely that she didn't succeed.

"I don't think it worked."

"It's a failure. The brahim language is difficult."

"Try again. Read it aloud nice and slow."

I move around the back of Pan, closer to Roxanne.

The incantation sentence is sure to have appeared in her mind.

"warriors of the beasts of amaraha? xx. Oh, I understand it. The power of eighty is unleashed."

"What's amaraha?"

The mistakes aren't translated.

Roxanne already corrected one part herself.

A red magic circle appears beneath Pan's feet, and I slash at him with Durandal.

"Amaraha, amarama, araraha, it's ugly."

"Ugly?"

"Something like that."

Roxanne translates it as ugly.

"Ugly?"

"There are no warriors of the beasts of ugly."

Is it translated accidentally?

Is it similar to another word?

I think about it while watching for the magic formation.

TN: While fucking around, our Villager Lv5 tank is killed.

"Maybe not ugly, but ugliness."

"Amuraha?"

"Ugliness."

"Ugliness?"

Roxanne repeats my brahim word.

I'm not sure, but the mistake might be gone because it's been translated.

"In the olden times, it had a meaning of strength."

The magic formation appears again, and I cancel it while explaining. Though I'm not sure I'm right.

It's the brahim language.

"Ugliness?"

"Are you familiar with the word?"

Sherry dodges a punch from the demon as I'm asking. Aside from magic, Pan really isn't much of a problem. His physical power isn't a worry.

"Well, maybe."

It might be good since it was translated.

"warriors of the beasts of ugliness? With the united power of eighty, beast attack."

TN: The original for ugliness was 醜, which doesn't have any useful other meanings that I know of, so I left it as ugliness even though it just doesn't sound right.

Roxanne revises the incantation for the skill with my advice. There's still a question halfway through it though. She makes an attack similar to the first one, so it seems to have failed again.

Another red magic formation appears, so I slash again with Durandal. Roxanne recites it again, but it ends with a similar outcome. It seems to be useless as a question. warrior? Asking it might have no chance of succeeding.

"How is it?"

"I think it's another failure. The brahim language is difficult."

"It's understandable since it's in brahim."

Sherry tries to cheer her up.

“Your sure it’s warrior? How about warrior?” TN: The first is senshi, the second is mononofu, both of which mean warrior.

I suggest something while I swing Durandal.

TN: no good clue on this:ちはやふる神、たらちねの母。

TN: or this 八十 にかかる枕詞がもののふのだったはずだ。

“Warrior?”

“It’s an older word for Warrior.”

Sherry seems to know about it.

“Ah, I understand, I’ll try it.”

Roxanne does the incantation again.

“warriors of the beasts of ugliness, with the united power of eighty, beast attack.”

Roxanne drives the scimitar into Pan.

The sword’s speed is several times faster than normal.

It’s literally a power of driving it into something.

The scimitar cuts into Pan.

Pan has a meaty gash in him.

“Ohh!”

“I did it, it’s a success.”

“It’s amazing.”

It’s a single blow that can surely take a life.

The momentum and power is totally different.

It’s a success with no problems.

Probably because of our offensive, a red magic formation appears at Pan’s feet.

I can’t miss it.

I cut it again with Durandal.

Pan is defeated by the blow.

He collapses on the floor.

Before long, he becomes smoke and disappears.

“We did that spectacularly.”

“Thank you so much, Master.”

“Well done.”

I slashed it with Durandal many times, and I don't think the beast attack had much difference in power compared to Durandal.

Maybe the same, or double at best.

It's still quite good for the scimitar to be able to match Durandal in power though.

I'm not sure how often we'll be able to use it however, as Roxanne is normally fighting demons head on, but it will be useful for something.

“Roxanne is amazing.”

“Thank you, Sherry.”

Roxanne and Sherry share the joy.

Sherry picks up the dropped item.

She passes it to me.

It will be dinner for tomorrow.

“It's amazing that you know such an old expression.”

“Master's brahim is amazing. As expected of Master.”

Does Sherry think of me the same way Roxanne does a little?

I can use the brahim language, but saying that I know it isn't really correct.

“To finish it so quickly even though it's the seventh floor boss... I didn't get much chance to learn Pan's movements.”

After hearing the complaint, maybe it's impossible to get respect?

Ignoring Sherry, we go to the eighth floor.

We'll be fighting up to four demons at once here.

“As usual, lets try to start with somewhere with a small amount of demons.”

“Yes... that way, there's a Collagen Coral.”

After issuing instructions, Roxanne points straight away after sniffing out an area with few enemies.

The demon on Vale Labyrinth's eighth floor seems to be the Collagen Coral.

"So it's the Collagen Coral?"

"Um, you can ask the explorer at the entrance which demons appear on which floor, or you could go to the nearest explorers guild, or the explorers guild in Quratar."

"Oh, I guess we could."

Sherry gives advice, but there's no point just knowing the type without experiencing it.

What's its weak point? What attacks does it do? How should I deal with it? Those are the things that matter.

If it's a demon we've fought previously, we can deal with it straight away.

If it's a demon we've never fought then just the name doesn't help us.

At least so far.

"Um..."

"From now on, I'll leave learning these things to Sherry."

I leave the problem to Sherry and she has an amazed expression.

This should be fine.

"I'd be happy to."

Sherry nods with a determined expression.

Her eyes look odd, so I hope the expression won't become a habit.

"The problem will be when four demons appear."

"Yes. Will Sherry take one while I take three? Or two each? Or Master one, Sherry one, and two for me?"

"I'd like to try half, is that alright?"

As I think about the new situation, Sherry makes a suggestion.

Chapter 55: Master Smith

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We advance to the 8th floor of Vail's labyrinth.
From the 8th floor, the monsters will come out in groups of up to 4.
When I think about dealing with that, Sherry makes a proposal.

“What is it?”

“Because the weapon I am wielding is a hammer, I can strike several monsters simultaneously. Roxanne can handle 2 monsters and it should be possible for me to handle 2 as well.”

I did not know that.

Was there such an advantage with a hammer?

If we have two people as vanguard then I am at ease.

Even then one must deal with it by adapting depending on the opponent.

“I see. Is it fine to try to attempt it immediately?”

“It will be useful when there is a crowd of monsters, so whenever possible when 4 come out I would like to try it.”

“I understand. Then for now we will do as Sherry says.”

First to come out was a Collagen Coral Lv8 which went down in 5 magic hits without a problem.

There are lv 7 Collagen Corals to fight in Quartar labyrinth.
In this world's labyrinths, being unable to deal with monsters getting tougher just by going up 1 floor shouldn't be the case.
I haven't collected enough information on it.

Next Roxanne found a group of three monsters, and after that was a group of 4.
Like usual I had requested for Roxanne to lead the way to the nearest monsters.

Collagen Coral Lv8

Collagen Coral Lv8

Escape Goat Lv8

Naive Olive Lv8

Escape Goat is a bit troublesome but it can't be helped.

“Roxanne on Escape Goat and Naive Olive. I entrust to Sherry the 2 Collagen Corals on the left.”

I issue instruction, then start off with 2 [Fire Storms].
The escape goat will try and escape if I use a third shot.

The two vanguards confront the monsters.
Sherry swings the club from the left.
She swung her club, however, it hit the round body of Collagen Coral, and then it stopped there.
The Collagen Coral who avoided getting hit throws itself ramming Sherry.

“Simply just swinging seems pointless.”
“Is it difficult?”

It is not possible to attack several monsters simply just by swinging.
It hits one then it stops.
In order to attack 2 with one swing, perhaps you only graze the first one?

“Is it useless if I don't swing hard enough to knock one out of the way?”
Such thing happens.

“Or since the impact of the hit is being absorbed, should I just graze 1st monster.”

I used healing and put [Plating] back on.
I cast a third [FireStorm].
Escape Goat begins to retreat.

This is a chance.
They don't seem to reverse well when 4 are lined up in a line.
Because Roxanne suppresses the front skilfully they can't break through.
Because of that it would take time to escape.

By the time the retreating Escape Goat turned around I launched the fourth shot.

Sherry swung her club once again.

She hits the first Collagen Coral, the trajectory greatly changes and misses the second one.

Therefore again she receives attack from the second one.

Because the Escape Goat is escaping, I don't replace [Plating] and instead shot a 5th [FireStorm].

With this everything is sure to go down.

The sparks dance, the monsters die.

Before Sherry's next attack struck, all the monsters were defeated.

"It is difficult to graze them."

"What to do? If it seems impossible, we can consider other formations."

I ask while using healing and [Plating].

"Please let me do a bit more. Because I feel like I can somehow do it."

"Is that so."

"It should be alright"

When I look at Roxanne for confirmation, she nodded.

"Got it. Well then we will continue as it is. Roxanne's current position was good."

"Thank you very much"

Sherry while muttering things like "more like this" is practising club swings.

It is close to baseball bat swings.

In one swing striking 2 or more enemies, is it natural to swing horizontally?

She swings the club from the left for practice.

Is Sherry left-handed batter?

"Aren't the positions of the hands reversed?"

"Reversed?"

A left-handed batter's left hand is positioned on top.

Sherry holds the club with her right hand on the top.

A grip which is usually used for holding a sword.

“If you grasp like that to swing, then you can swinging smoothly from the right.”

When in kendo, left-handers had right hand on top.
But I don't know why.

In case of baseball, left batter's left hand is on top.
I also don't know why.

“Ah. It is true. This way it is easy to swing.”

Sherry exchanged her hands and tried it several times.
Next I considered teaching her raised-foot stance, but I stopped myself.
It's a martial art for a single opponent, and may create openings against groups.

“But by looking at how it is held, you can work out if the attack will come from the right or the left.”

“This is if the monster has that much intelligence”

I talked to Roxanne while watching Sherry's practice swings.
Sherry with right hand on top swings from the right then changes left hand to the top and swings from the left.

“I see. Does occasionally reversing swing direction make it difficult to be seen through?”

“There's benefits to using a hammer, so I think it can't be helped if they start to see through your movements.”

Next we came across 3 monsters, 2 of which were defeated with Durandal, following that we came across four monsters.

“Let's go”

“Alright. Time to show some results.”

While casting [FireStorm] I send off Sherry.
Because there was no Escape Goat in the group, I shot the monsters 3 times before they arrived.

Sherry stands in front of the monsters and swings fully the club.
The attack magnificently sends the first monster flying back and hits the second one.

Overbearing or rather forcibly with all her strength.

It won't work if you don't swing it strong enough?
Dwarves attack with a lot of brute strength.
I think I understood the reason dwarves equip a hammer.

Is that the reason why dwarves equip a hammer?

"I did it"
"Great"

While praising Sherry I cast the fourth [FireStorm].
Followed by the fifth shot.
The four monsters fall.

After defeating the monsters, I think about [Party Job Settings] and look at Sherry's Jobs.
The reason dwarves equip a hammer.

Villager Lv9, Explorer Lv10, Herbalist Lv1, Warrior Lv1, Merchant Lv1,
Shrine Maiden Lv1, Swordsman Lv1, Monk Lv1, Master Smith Lv1.

It's there.
That much overbearing skill and technique.
If the dwarf is not strong enough then I think it would be impossible.
In other words, no wonder you need to be a talented dwarf to do it.

[Master Smith] acquisition condition is to strike several monsters in one swing.
After having [Explorer] Lv10 (or more?). [Villager] Lv5 or more, there might be something else but I don't know.

Anyway, Sherry has obtained [Master Smith] Job.
With this Sherry can be [Master Smith].

Finally her desire of [Master Smith] has been obtained.

"Alright. Today's exploration will stop here."

I think advancing too much will burn us out.

"I think it is still early but"
"Well there are various things still to do."

“Certainly.”

Aside from business, I have a feeling that continuing would be bad. Also called “Lights are usually followed by shadows”. [Otk: this means that when things are going well something bad is bound to happen] I don’t want to have my last words to be “Let’s do a bit more...”. Today’s exploration stopped, I think it is better to rest.

The labyrinth is never a safe place.
In front of us there was a completely crushed party of 6.

“Are we going to the merchant guild?”

Sherry asked.
Was there equipment with attached skills being auctioned by the Merchant Guild?
The crushed party have left behind 5 weapons with attached [Incantation Delay].

Sherry has become a [Master Smith], but the person herself doesn’t know it yet.

The usual tension.
Has it only become high for me?

“Yeah. Has Sherry used the auction?”
“No, I have not. Anyone can use the auction but they seem to often go through brokers.”
“Brokers? Well when we go and see I will understand”

Today’s exploration is up to here, we jump to Quratar Adventurer Guild. When we come out the sun has not set yet.

I ask about the location at the Adventurer Guild, then go to Merchant Guild to have a look.

“Brokers snatch away the profit, but it’s difficult not to use them because they look out for each other I’ve been told.”

Along the way to Merchant Guild, I heard the story from Sherry. If there is a profit there, it can’t be helped that people will go for it. Brokers seem to be profiteers.

We arrive at the guild building and enter inside.
There are several people in the lobby.
Some people doing evaluations looked this way.
Their gazes aren't pleasant.

When we stopped, one man approached us.

Laurel man 31 years old
Sex Maniac Lv35
Equipment: Landslide Iron Sword, Lucky bracelet of Sacrifice.

[Sex Maniac].
First time I see one.

"I haven't seen your face before. Is it your first time here?"
"Yeah"

Because lying is pointless, I replied truthfully.

"I do brokering, call me Laurel. Will you hear what I have to say?"
"Only what you have to say?"
"If you don't particularly like it you may decline. Let's go to the other room."

The broker showed us inside the guild.

"Please wait a moment."

I turn to the two behind me.
I feel it would be bad to take these two to [Sex Maniac]'s room.
For beautiful Roxanne with big breasts and little, lovely Sherry.

"Roxanne and Sherry, go ahead of me to the clothes shop. Buy two sets each of top and bottom clothes for Sherry. Roxanne may also buy one outfit"

"Is that fine?"

"I don't mind. We ended up with some extra income."

"Thank you very much."

Anyway she can't only have one set.
I originally planned to buy Sherry's clothes soon.

The two went outside and I followed the broker.
He leads me to a room that only has a table and chairs.
Feels like a meeting room.

“This is a room where we may freely use to do things like business discussions.”

“I see”

The broker went around the interior and sat on the chair.
I also sat down on the chair on this side.
If it is this side then it is possible to immediately run away.
There is no harm talking?

“Have you been with those two long?”

“Not really.”

“You seem to be human. For humans it is a good job going into the labyrinths. How about you come to our guild?”

The talk is, invitation to [Sex Maniac] guild?

I lost my nervousness.

Well, if you see a human man leading two beauties then I get him noticing the condition, but...

“[Sex Maniac]?”

“What. Were you in the same trade?”

The broker leaned against a chair and looked at the sky.
I feel like looking up too.

“No, not yet in same trade. But I would like to hear about it to some extent.”

“What would you like to know?”

“Let’s see, regarding [Abstinence Attack]? How is it used?”

I will try asking about it during this opportunity.

“You know about it to that extent? I’m not really supposed to teach a non guild member.”

“I see.”

Skills seem to be a secret.

Society has a prejudice against strange jobs, so the group has to be strong.

“Well it’s probably fine. I enter the labyrinth once every 10 days. The Boss does not die in one hit but, it is a useful skill.”

“Is that so?”

“It’s horrible to practice abstinence for 10 days, but I’m married and normally work here, so it’s not bad.

[Sex Maniac] explained to me.

Based on the explanation, I assemble the pieces.

To do [Abstinence Attack] it seems abstinence is necessary. The marriage is related.

“10 days is terrible”

“Well even in 2-3 days it has moderate power.”

When I agreed like a parrot, additional information came.

2-3 days moderate power, 10 days considerable damage on boss. In other words, [Abstinence Attack] depending on the time of abstinence the attack power changes.

The longer amount of time I abstain, the more the attack power increases.

In my case since I hadn’t abstained long, so it was at that power.

The more I abstain the more attack power increases. Of course, in order to accumulate abstinence I have to continue having [Sex Maniac] active.

[Vitality Increase] skill then is in effect.

[Sex Maniac]’s seething sexual desire accumulates into a mass.

Violent instincts due to [Vitality Increase] are suppressed by abstinence. And releasing it all at once after it’s accumulated over long time. That becomes an amazing thing before long.

It is certainly an effective skill.

Effective skill without a doubt.

It is effective skill, but.

“Sorry but it seems difficult for me.”

After all for me having unusable skill does not change anything. Something like abstaining for 10 days in front of Roxanne and Sherry. Is Impossible.

“Well, when there are beautiful companions... Even so, entering a guild while you’re young is good. After all only a few live to grow old.”

Internal energies are the energy source. Probably when Vitality declines, [Abstinence Attack]’s power decreases.

If only the intervals were the problem, then an old man with a declined sexual desire could use [Abstinence Attack] as much as he wants.

“Sorry”

“I see. Then did you come to the auction to buy or to sell?”

When refusing, the [Sex Maniac] easily withdrew. Inviting me to the guild seemed to be a bonus.

“For now I want to hear about how things work from both sides.”
“It is appropriate to go through brokers like us for purchases. Since you don’t know when it will be exhibited. Since you don’t have free time to stick around in the auction, right?”

“Certainly”

What or when there’s an exhibited, there seems to be no system to let you know in advance.

You can’t continue staying until a thing you desire shows up. Therefore you place an order with a broker.

“In regards to sales it’s also appropriate to hire a broker, as they can organize the timing of the sale. Because you can get more at certain times.”

Since regular people don’t know what is exhibited, and don’t know the timings of when the customers want that. There is a possibility of getting a bargain.

“I see.”

“What would you like to buy?”

“Hmm. Kobold monster card.”

“Kobold monster card? Please wait a moment.”

The broker took out a note book from inside a handheld bag. Brown, cheap note book. It's papyrus.

“Yesterday it appeared for 5,200 nars. Before that 5,400 nars. And before that on springs 20th day it was 5,200. And the day before that it also appeared for 5,200 nars.”

I don't know about monster card value being 5 thousand and some nars but, since that is the market price I can only nod. However, rather than it being the market price, someone might be putting purchase price to 5,200.

Monster card fusion often fails.

The person wanting it will keep buying until it succeeds.

“So that's how it is.””

“When I am broker, the commission is 500 nars. Because I also enter labyrinth I am fine with deferred payment. Other brokers ask for payment in advance normally.”

If entering the labyrinth there is danger to his life. If by chance the broker dies then the commission does not come back. Therefore it is deferred payment?

“I see.”

“Please decided the highest bid value before doing the request. Since the guild puts up the auction results, we are reliable. Because of competing, it seldom drops below specified price.”

The broker made an unpleasant grin. I heard from Sherry that the brokers cooperate. It is easy. You tell the highest bid to your colleagues and they compete up to that limit.

Since the seller is also a broker the profits can be divided. Even if it is not dividing, you can help the sale. If said other way round, if the customer who is not a broker is a seller then they can bring down the highest price.

Certainly it is difficult to circumvent the broker in the auction.

“I understand. But it seems now is a bad time.”

“Then how about selling. What would you like to sell?”

“There are 5 bronze swords of obstruction.”

“5? It is regrettable.”

The brokers face was a bit strained.

Well it might be bad timing to sell 5.

“Not good?”

“Bronze sword of obstruction is a weapon which is often used on low level bosses. Because there are 6 people in a party, a set of 6 sells for a lot. Can you hold on to it until you get one more? ...”

The broker gets a considering look.

Seems to be calculating various things.

“Does it sell high if there are 6?”

“That’s right. For 5 bronze swords of obstruction I can give you 15,000 each. The winning bid might be 30,000 or more but only if they are auctioned one after the other. If it’s a set of 6 I can give you 100,000.”

“I see. It’s like that?”

Half the price.

Broker’s share is large.

It’s as Sherry’s acquaintance said. Trying to circumvent to make a profit is difficult.

“What do you want to do?”

“I’ll try to look for one more. Sorry for only hearing what you have to say.”

I stretch and stand up.

Even if I do use a broker, one who exposes his skills is no good.

It’s better to look for someone else.

Besides [Sex Maniac] job does not have the [Calc] skill.

As long as there is a possibility. there should be a merchant broker.

Though there is no 30% increase effect for auction itself.

One sword for 15,000 however if 30% increase effect 6 swords are 117,000

nars.

“Try to search for it somehow”

“I’m not sure if it’s possible, but we’ll see.”

I don’t feel like putting any effort into it.

I might put effort in if I’m able to make one to sell them for the better price.

Chapter 56: Fusion

*

I left Merchant Guild, and went to the clothing store nearby. Roxanne and Sherry were there together, buying clothes. It felt great seeing them together like this.

“Sorry, I kept you waiting.”

“No, no, it’s fine.”

They don’t seem to have finished choosing yet. Come on, at least Roxanne should’ve had finished shopping much earlier.
sigh

It can’t be helped.

“Is that so?”

“This one, or this one? Master, which one do you like?”

Roxanne approaches me with two tunics in her hands. First one seems to be tight on body.

“Roxanne looks pretty in whatever she wears.”

“Th-Thank you.”

Because there was no helping it, I went along with it until they were done.

“Umm... is it alright?”

“Is it alright for you to buy us new clothes?”

When we were done shopping, Sherry asks. Sherry bought dwarven clothing, of course. In this world, it is categorized same as childrenswear. For this reason, there are many children outfits in clothing shops. Also, there are many that look identical to adult outfits. If not for dwarven clothing, there won’t be these many children outfits around.

“It’s alright.”

“Thank you. Well, clothes that slaves wear are owner’s property after all.”

Sherry mumbles in a low voice.

Hey, that was an unnecessary thing to say.

“Umm... excuse me, is it okay to buy this one as well?”

Roxanne comes back hesitantly with one more.

I wish you learn some modesty from Sherry.

Rather than clothes, it was a piece of cloth. Red.

Loincloth?

“Is it necessary?”

“Umm... I’m sorry. I don’t want to stain my underwear.”

Although I don’t understand, it seems something necessary.

“Hmm? Fine then.”

“I’m sorry. Umm... there’s one more thing.”

Roxanne comes close to my ear.

There was more than just ‘I’m sorry.’

“What is it?”

“Umm... because ‘it’ has started, I won’t be able receive your affection tonight.”

Roxanne whispers in my ear.

‘It’ has started.

Period.

Is this piece of cloth a replacement for sanitary napkin?

Well, it can’t be helped. It’s blood after all.

It’s just that...

It’s just that I wanted to try Enhanced Vigor skill of Sex Maniac tonight. It seems I have to postpone it for the time being.

Oh well, there are other skills I want to try more than the skills of Sex Maniac.

Having returned home, after buying clothes and food ingredients, I ask Sherry to sit down across the table from me.

“What is it about?”

“Well, I wanted to tell you that...”

“Yes?”

That Sherry is a Master Smith.

How do I say it?

Why is it so difficult?

I guess I have to proceed with a frontal attack.

I mean I can't work around from the sides this time.

I spit it all out in one breath.

“From now on, Sherry will be a Master Smith.”

“Wha-”

It was so sudden, Sherry's mouth remained open.

“I thought you would be this shocked. I understand. To finally get what one has lost hope of getting is just so incredible.”

“U-Umm...”

“Even if becoming a Master Smith seems impossible, giving it up is just not right.”

“E-Err...”

I take out a Copper Sword and a Monster Card.

“You must be able to use it now. Fusion, that is. Try it.”

“N-No...”

I have no choice but to push her.

“Do it! You can do it! I know you can do it! You can absolutely do it! Just do it!”

“B-But...”

“It's alright, I'll help you. Repeat after me, ‘Monster Card Fusion.’ Repeat after Michio, ‘Monster Card Fusion.’”

I urge her to repeat the skill name after me.

“Monster Card Fusion?”

For some reason, it's Roxanne who repeats it.

No, not you, Roxanne.

It's no use if Roxanne does it.

Confused Roxanne looks so cute.

However, I don't know if it's because of Roxanne appearing, or because of me pushing her, but Sherry shows some motivation.

“Mo-Monster Card Fusion.”

Quietly, in a low voice, she calls the skill name out.
The next instant, Sherry has her eyes opened wide.
Wide with surprise.

As for Sherry's job, I had changed it beforehand. She is Master Smith Lv1 now.

In that case, what happens if you call out the skill name?

Skill incantation appears in your mind.

Sherry looks at me with an expression of disbelief.

“You look even more hot.”

I grasp Sherry's fist, and raise it high to announce her victory.

“B-But how...”

“You can change, if you have the will for it. Anyone can change, if they have the will for it. Let's try fusion now.”

I hold out the Copper Sword and Rabbit Monster Card before Sherry.
All doubts can be put to rest, if there's proof.

“A-Are you fine with it?”

“It's fine.”

This Copper Sword has an empty skill slot.
If my hypothesis is correct, this fusion has 100% chance of success.
Even if my hypothesis is off mark, it's alright. It can't be helped.
Well, there's a possibility of scam too, but...

But from what I heard, when fusion fails, raw materials of the weapon remain.

There was no time for her to prepare it beforehand.

“W-Well, when you do it, can you please call skill incantation out loud?”

I take precaution.

Are wise men always this calm?

“I understand.”

“Descend O Lord xx, O shadow of heaven and earth.”

Sherry slowly recites the skill incantation.

“Hmm...”

“That’s probably it.”

“What was that word?”

I point out the word that wasn’t translated.

“Was that not the correct word? If that’s the case, I think it might be ‘to celebrate.’”

“‘To celebrate’ it is.”

“‘To celebrate’... alright. Descend O Lord to celebrate, O shadow of heaven and earth.”

Sherry recites corrected spell incantation.

Perfect.

If it weren’t, I would have received another prompt for correction.

When Sherry was done, she looks at me.

I nod silently in approval, and hand the Copper Sword and the Monster Card over to her.

Copper Sword in right hand, Rabbit Monster Card in left.

She places her left hand holding the Monster Card directly above her right hand holding the Copper Sword.

“Descend O Lord to celebrate, O shadow of heaven and earth – Monster Card Fusion.”

She calls the skill incantation out.

The next instant, Sherry’s hands are glowing.

With dazzling, bright white light.

The moment the light subsided...

Only a sword remained.

Copper Sword of Obstruction | Two Handed Sword

Skill: Incantation Delay

(TL: It translates as Bronze Sword, but romanji is same as Copper Sword. Also, it is basically Copper Sword with Incantation Delay skill, so I opted for Copper Sword of Obstruction instead of Bronze Sword of Obstruction.)

Success!

Apparently, if you attach Incantation Delay skill to a Copper Sword, it becomes Copper Sword of Obstruction.

Also, my hypothesis of fusing a Monster Card with a weapon with empty skill slot was indeed correct.

“Sherry, you did well.”

I take the sword from Sherry, and check it out.

Save for Incantation Delay skill, Copper Sword of Obstruction doesn't seem any different from a Copper Sword.

“Master, was it a success?”

“Of course.”

“You did it, Sherry.”

When I answer Roxanne's question, she congratulates Sherry.

“You did well, Sherry.”

“-y...”

Sherry, however, has a funny expression on her face.

She puts her face down on the table, and starts groaning.

“What is it?”

“-ry...”

“What's the matter?”

“I'm sorry. I'm sorry to have succeeded. I'm sorry to have become a Master Smith. I'm sorry to have been born.”

She keeps apologizing.

Puzzled, I exchange glances with Roxanne.

Ah, so it's that.

I remember something similar from a while back.

It's the state of MP exhaustion.

When you're out of MP, your mind is overwhelmed with negativity.

For a Master Smith Lv1, MP will naturally be low.

I wonder if it's barely enough to use Monster Card Fusion only once at a time.

I hand the sword over to Roxanne, and move to the other side of the table.

I take out a Mana Pill from my Item Box.

I bought it earlier as a precaution, for emergencies such as this one.

"It's alright. Sherry is important. Sherry is amazing. Here, take this medicine."

"I am not worthy of using such a precious medicine. I'll be fine. I'm really sorry."

Sherry shakes her head in refusal.

She's in a condition where she's not even accepting medicine.

This is no different from dying.

"Rest easy. Sherry succeeded. Sherry is amazing."

"No, I'm not. I only succeeded because I'm useless."

Did I too have such a train of thought at that time?

Everything seems to be negative to her.

"But Sherry's Monster Card Fusion was a success. Sherry is great."

While Roxanne was cheering Sherry up, I put the Pill in her mouth.

This mental state is really painful.

If you have means to cure it, use them as early as possible.

I hold Sherry, and turn her face to me.

Her pale red, tiny mouth is so lovely.

I lock my mouth with hers.

I pry her mouth open, and stick my tongue in.

Our tongues are all entwined now.

It's our first time kissing so passionately.

I can see a glimmer of hope.

I move my tongue around.
Then I rest my tongue a little, and let Sherry calm down.
To ensure that the Pill finds the passage down her throat.

I pull my tongue back, but keep my lips pressed on hers, and wait for her to swallow the Pill down.
After confirming movement in her throat, I let go of her mouth.

“So, have you calmed down now?”
“...Yes. Umm...”
“You don’t have to apologize, it’s fine.”

I place my hand on her fluffy head, and stroke her hair.
Now calm, Sherry takes a deep breath.

“Come to think of it, I have heard of such a thing. When someone becomes a Master Smith, and fail at their first Monster Card Fusion, they commit suicide.”

Even after succeeding, it turned out like this.
It’s understandable to wanting to commit suicide in the event of failing.
And if you leave it at that, you might indeed die.

“It’s temporary, so don’t worry about it.”
“Okay.”

Sherry is taking deep breaths to calm herself down.
How she became a Master Smith remains unasked, so it can be considered a good end result.

“Eh? Is Sherry really a Master Smith now?”

While I was having that thought, a bullet comes in from the least expected direction.
From Roxanne’s direction.

“That’s right.”
“But how?”

How, you ask? Well, you won’t get it even if I tell you.

“I can do it. How I do it, however, is a secret.”

“Is that so?”

“That is so.”

“As one would expect from master. Master is amazing.”

Roxanne withdraws with an expression of respect.
In any case, this matter is settled now thanks to Roxanne.

“He really can do it. It’s amazing.”

Sherry, having calmed herself down, grasps the situation.
I expected her to pursue it further, but she doesn’t.
Rather, she looks at me with sparkling eyes.

I wonder if my impression to her has improved a little.
A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step.
To gain her trust, I have to take one step at a time.

“Sherry being a Master Smith increases my attack power too.”

Roxanne says something strange.

“Huh?”

“Being a Master Smith benefits all party members. Finally, I can be of help.”

Sherry says the same thing.

“A Beast Warrior doesn’t increase attack power of other party members.
Sherry really is amazing.”

“What do you mean?”

I ask Sherry.

“Having a Master Smith in the party increases attack power of all party members. This has been known since olden days.”

“Is that so?”

“Yes.”

“Is that so?”

“Yes.”

I ask Roxanne too, and receive the same answer.

“Did you not know that?”

Sherry's eyes look cold.
Her stare intensifies.

These same eyes had respect for me just a while ago.
Ebb and flow.
No, not really. I took 3 steps forward, and went 2 steps back.
It must be so. It has to be so.

“Having a Master Smith in the party increases attack power of all party members?”

But there was no such skill last time I checked.
Hmm...
Is there really such a skill?

Master Smith Lv1
Effects: Medium Increase in Strength | Small Increase in Stamina | Small Increase in Dexterity
Skills: Create Weapon | Create Armor | Monster Card Fusion | Item Box

There's an effect 'Medium Increase in Strength.'
So when strength increases, attack power increases as well.
Or in other words, to increase attack power, you need to increase your strength?

Beast Warrior Lv20
Effects: Medium Increase in Agility | Small Increase in Stamina | Small Increase in Dexterity
Skill: Beast Attack

There's no 'Increase in Strength' effect.

“What is it?”

While confirming her job details, I look at Roxanne with a face full of doubts, so she asks.

“There is no increase in your, Beast Warrior's, attack power.”
“It's unfortunate.”
“Rather, your true strength lies in your quick movement.”

Instead of 'Increase in Strength,' Beast Warrior has 'Increase in Agility' effect.

"Definitely."

"It is also believed that having a Beast Warrior in the party increases movement speed of all party members. This, however, is a hypothesis at this point, and remains to be substantiated."

Sherry explains on behalf of Roxanne.

"So the increase in attack power has been confirmed?"

"Yes, by counting the number of same attacks it required to take out a certain monster of certain level, with and without a Master Smith in the party.

"I see."

So to some extent, scientific research is carried out even in this world. It seems to have been confirmed that having a Master Smith in the party increases attack power of all party members.

"The great scholar of the past thus confirmed it."

The great scholar of the past.

That great scholar of the past really seems to be great.

"Aside from Master Smith, are there no other jobs that increase attack power of the party members? Swordsman, for instance."

"So you have understood the idea. It is indeed believed that having a Swordsman in the party increases attack power of the party members."

Like I thought.

Because Swordsman has an effect 'Small Increase in Strength.'

By having a party member with a job that has an effect 'Increase in Strength,' like Master Smith and Swordsman, all party members can have their attack power increased.

In other words, an effect of a job is shared with all party members.

So it was like that.

I have been mistaking it until now.

The effect of one's job is not effective only to one's own self.

I never imagined it to be like that.

Also, should I say 'Increase in Strength' increases attack power of a Swordsman because it is the characteristic of that job?

'Increase in Strength' might not necessarily increase attack power of a Beast Warrior.

Because I have already confirmed that my magic attack becomes weak when I cancel Hero job, 'Increase in Intelligence' is unmistakably the characteristic of Hero job. (TL: It should be the characteristic of Wizard job, not Hero job. But that's how it's in raws, so bear with it.)

So if I'm not a party member, will the absence of 'Increase in Intelligence' have a detrimental effect on Sherry and Roxanne?

"If there's a Wizard in the party, magic attack of the party members increases?"

"Indeed."

"Well then, it would be great to have an all Wizard party of six."

"It would be, if you take only magic attack into account. Wizards, however, are rare, and they would be in trouble in the absence of a vanguard."

Is that so?

Of course it is so.

you must have balanced party composition and skills.

It is imperative to have everything balanced.

Credits

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Chapter 36, 40-41, 44, 46-51, 54 – by Cyrogen

Chapter 29-30

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Chapter 34

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Chapter 39

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Chapter 42

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